

Memo to File:

This memo serves as documentation of rationale for deferral of six lease parcels recommended by Vernal Field Office for the February 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The following rationale provides background for the decision to postpone of decision to offering the following parcels in the February 2008 lease sale.

UT0208-004

UT0208-013

UT0208-005

UT0208-014

UT0208-012

UT0208-017

These parcels will undergo further evaluation and consideration for offer on a future sale.

Rationale

Upon reviewing the subject parcels for sensitive plants, wildlife and other important resources, the Vernal Field Office (Vernal FO) identified the presence of several important wildlife habitats, including that of the greater sage-grouse.

The Vernal Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) does identify the specific conditions, terms, stipulations and notices applicable to each parcel. Following discussion and based on recommendations of the State Office Energy Support Team, it is my conclusion that further consideration of existing planning decisions and NEPA documentation is necessary to ensure that the potential environmental consequences of leasing these six parcels are adequately addressed and all appropriate stipulations are applied.



Kent Hoffman
Deputy State Director
Division of Lands and Minerals

Date: January 4, 2008



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Vernal Field Office
170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
1300
(UT-08300)3120

January 4, 2008

Memorandum

To: State Director, UT-924
Attention: Teresa Thompson, Terry Catlin

From: Field Manager, Vernal Field Office *William Stinger*

Subject: February 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale Parcel Recommendations

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) has nineteen parcels on the preliminary list for the February 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The following recommendations for leasing or deferral of parcels are provided to the BLM Utah State Director.

Eight parcels or pieces of parcels are recommended for deferral pending completion of the Vernal Resource Management Plan. Further information on deferred parcels is contained in Attachment 1. The parcels are as follows:

Parcels and Portions of Parcels Recommended For Deferral

UT0208-001
UT0208-002
UT0208-003
UT0208-018
UT0208-019
UT0208-020
UT0208-021
UT0208-022
UT0208-023

*portion of parcel being deferred

The attached Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Worksheet was prepared to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of oil and gas parcels within the administrative boundaries of the VFO for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale. An Interdisciplinary Team review is included as Attachment 2 of the DNA. The recommended parcel and attached stipulations and lease notices are found in Attachment 1 of the DNA. The following 11 parcels or portions of parcels being considered for the February 2008 sale have been determined to be in conformance with existing Land Use Plans, and are recommended to go forward in the lease sale. The VFO DNA addresses only those 11 parcels offered for sale.

Parcels Recommended For Sale

UT0208-004
UT0208-005
UT0208-06
UT0208-010
UT0208-012
UT0208-013
UT0208-014
UT0208-015
UT0208-016
UT0208-017
UT0208-020

*portion of parcel recommended for sale

Additional lease notices were attached to the parcels which were not included on the preliminary offer list submitted by USO on 11/5/2007. In accordance with WOIM 2002-174 the following Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation stipulation is to be added to all recommended lease parcels.

“The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.”

In accordance with WOIM 2005-003 Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation for Fluid Minerals Leasing, the cultural stipulation which states the following has been added to all offered lease parcels:

“This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.”

Please contact Holly Villa (435)-781-4404 if you have any questions.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
Attachment 2 DNA

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Deferred Parcel Table
February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

PARCEL	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	ACRES	REASON TRACT POSTPONED	LAND USE PLAN	PROPOSED LEASING DECISION DATE
UT0208-001	T. 3 N., R. 22 E., Salt Lake Sec. 13 lot 1, 2, SE Sec. 24 N2NE, SENE, W2, SE Sec. 25 NE	975.55	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements sited in 170 IBLA 331
UT0208-002	T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake Sec. 17 Lot 1-4, SW, N2SE, SWSE Sec. 18 ALL Sec. 19 ALL	1544.33	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat. ACEC: This land is within a Potential Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The Vernal Field Office completed an evaluation of potential ACECs in January 2005 as part of its current land use planning process. Based on that evaluation, it was determined that this segment of the Middle Green River meets the relevant and importance criteria for high value riparian ecosystem.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection of R&I values, pending further review of informational requirements sited in 170 IBLA 331
UT0208-003	T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake Sec. 20 W2E2, SENE, W2 Sec. 29 N2, W2SW, SESW, S2SE	1040.00	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements sited in 170 IBLA 331
UT0208-018	T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake Sec. 20 S2SE	80.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.

**Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale**

UT0208-019	T. 15 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake Sec.19 E2NE, NESE Sec.21 W2, W2SE, SESE Sec.22 SWSW Sec.28 N2SE, SESE Sec.33 NE	880.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT0208-021	T. 8 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake Sec.3 Lot 1, 2, 7, and 8	121.13	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT0208-022	T. 6 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake Sec.26 S2N2 Sec.33 ALL	800.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT0208-023	T. 15 S. R. 24 E., Salt Lake Sec.1 ALL Sec.3 Lot 1-6, S2N2, N2SW, SE Sec.11 N2NE, SENE Sec.12 ALL Sec.18 Lot 3, 4, NESW, SE	2315.69	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.

*Only portions of lease are deferred

Worksheet

Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision; however, it constitutes an administrative record to be provided as evidence in protest, appeals and legal procedures.

A. BLM Office: Vernal Field Office (UT-080)

Proposed Action Title: February 19, 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Location of Proposed Action: Parcels within Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah County, Utah. Attachment 1 contains legal descriptions for each parcel.

Description of the Proposed Action: The Utah State Office proposes to offer 19 parcels of land in Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah County, Utah administered by the Vernal Field Office for oil and gas leasing in a competitive lease sale to be held on February 19, 2008. All 19 parcels were assessed for land use plan compliance and NEPA adequacy. Attachment 1 lists all parcels including special lease stipulations and lease notices. These parcels include public lands or lands in which the mineral estate is administered by the BLM. If a parcel of land is not purchased at the lease sale by competitive bidding, it may still be leased within two years after the initial offering under a current review of NEPA adequacy. A lease may be held for ten years, after which the lease expires unless oil or gas is produced in paying quantities. A producing lease can be held indefinitely by economic production.

Planning decisions place certain lands in a no leasing category. Most lands are leased with minor stipulations attached to the lease from the appropriate land use plan for the area. Some lands are leased with limited areas of no surface occupancy within the lease boundaries. Some lands are leased with no stipulations other than those found on the standard lease contract form. A lease grants the right to drill for oil and gas, at some location on the lease.

A lessee must submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) (Form 3160-3) to the BLM for approval and must possess an approved APD prior to any surface disturbance in preparation for drilling. Any stipulations attached to the standard lease form must be complied before an APD may be approved. Following BLM approval of an APD, a lessee may produce oil and gas from the well in a manner approved by BLM in the APD or in subsequent sundry notices. The operator must notify the appropriate authorized officer, 48 hours before starting any surface disturbing activity approved in the APD.

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans

LUP Name:

Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah,
approved June 1975

Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact
Statement (DMRMP/EIS), approved December 21, 1994

Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCRMP/EIS), approved June 3, 1985

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- Environmental Analysis Record on page VIII-1 found no significant adverse impacts to the environment from leasing, and recommended that an environmental impact statement was not necessary.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on page 2-30 and Appendix 2 identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. The DRMP/EIS' Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the BCRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on pages 7 through 24, identifies those specific lands within the Book Cliffs Resource Area that are available for leasing.

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

- Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah, approved June 1975
- Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (DMEIS), 1993
- Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCEIS), 1985.
- Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1988.
- Supplement to Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1989.
- Draft Vernal Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement UT-GI-04-001-1610, 2005.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., source drinking water assessments, biological assessments, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, rangeland health standard's assessment and determinations, and monitoring report).

REVIEW

State of Utah Sensitive Species List
Interdisciplinary Team Review
Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review

DATE

2007
November 26, 2007
December 6, 2007

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Leasing of the lands described in Attachment 1 was analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS. The proposed action - leasing for oil and gas in the February 2008 sale - is substantially the same as the proposed action analyzed in each of the above environmental documents. Public land would be offered for leasing, and exploration and development for oil and gas resources may occur dependent on specific approval by the BLM and dependent on site-specific NEPA analysis. If land is leased, a lessee would be afforded rights to explore for and to develop oil and gas, subject to the lease terms, regulations, and laws.

The Environmental Analysis Record in Chapter 3, page III-1 described the affected environment. Chapter 4 page IV-1 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. It considered both the no leasing and leasing alternatives.

The BCRMP/EIS, in Chapter 3, page 93, of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) described the affected environment. Chapter 4, page 205, describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD, Chapter 2, pages 7 through 24, provides the decision to lease.

The DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 3 describes the affected environment. Chapter 4 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD for the DMRMP/EIS, in Chapter 2, page 2-30 and Appendix 2, identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The 1975 Environmental Analysis Record analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing in the resource area under two alternatives. The two alternatives were leasing and no leasing.

The BCRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing for all lands in the resource area under four different alternatives. The four alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities in between and varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative. The Current Management Alternative, or No Action Alternative, was also analyzed. The Balanced Use Alternative provided for the development of non-renewable resources while protecting critical surface resources. This alternative was the BLM's Proposed Action and Preferred Alternative.

The DMRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing on all lands in the resource area under five different alternatives. The five alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities in between varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative. The No Action Alternative was also analyzed. The Proposed Plan (Alternative E) provided for the leasing and development of resources while identifying the measures necessary to protect or enhance environmental values.

The alternatives analyzed, and the range of alternatives, are still appropriate for this action.

3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) reviewed the preliminary lease parcels through an interdisciplinary (ID) team approach. Resource information provided by agencies or the public has been reviewed by the appropriate resource specialist. Resources typically analyzed in existing NEPA documents include recreation, water, soils, wildlife, cultural resources, visual resources, etc. Review by the specialist determines if the information provided about resources for preliminary parcels is new and significant.

The VFO received the draft February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale parcel list on November, 5 2007. Copies of the complete list were provided to the interdisciplinary team on November 6, 2007 to complete data review. On November 26, 2007, the ID team of resource specialists, identified in Part E of this DNA, met to review the preliminary lease parcels. As part of the review process, the alternatives analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record for Oil and Gas Leasing in Vernal, the BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS were reviewed for resource impact from oil and gas leasing. Other manuals and policies were reviewed.

Individual members of the ID team reached conclusions regarding the adequacy of existing NEPA documentation. The review reports and rationale documented by these specialists are found in Attachment 2. The BLM VFO management then conducted an additional multiple-use review to further consider the significance of any new information and/or circumstances in light of the existing oil and gas lease categories, all required stipulations and relevance of information found in the Draft Vernal RMP revision. The results of these reviews for the parcels recommended for sale in the February 2008 lease sale are presented below.

The BLM VFO management considered the following to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of the parcels listed in Attachment 1:

- ✓ Environmental Analysis Record
- ✓ The existing BCRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ The existing DMRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ Applicable laws, regulations and BLM policy
- ✓ Interdisciplinary Team Review Attachment 2
- ✓ Leasing categories
- ✓ The Draft Vernal RMP

New information, none of which is significant is described below.

Cultural Resources: A cultural resources report was prepared (see Attachment 2) to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 19 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in a list provided by the Utah BLM State Office, Branch of Fluid Minerals, Salt Lake City, Utah in November, 2007 to the Vernal Utah BLM Field Office. The analytic unit/APE is the lease sale parcel's external boundary as defined in the lease document.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern.

This class 1 overview addresses the archaeology of the February, 2008 oil & gas lease sale and utilizes data current to the date of this document, November, 2007. Based on the November 19-22, 2007 records search, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one well pad and associated access road can occur without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources on 11 parcels. The documented cultural resources are located in such a fashion that avoidance is feasible for the development of oil and gas potential therefore the staff archaeologist determined that under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No Historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4" for the February, 2008 oil and gas lease sale. Based on this analysis, the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing will not be adversely affected by adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1. A "No Adverse Effect" Determination is recommended. This determination is based upon the above listed physical factors and the physical descriptions provided to the reviewer of this document. Avoidance is practiced by the VFO where possible, otherwise mitigation is implemented through Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Traditional Cultural Properties are always avoided and a protective buffer is implemented for a .5 mile radius.

To assure appropriate consideration of future effects from the February, 2008 lease sale, the BLM will add the following "lease stipulation" (WO-IM-2005-003), to all parcels offered for lease.

"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." (WO-IM 2005-03).

Environmental Justice: This review is for all parcels – According to the EPA Region VII, State of Utah Environmental Justice Map, the Uintah Basin has been categorized as a minority population area of 10 to 20% and a poverty population area of 10 to 20% (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/ej>, 9/7/04). The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.

Invasive, Non-native Species: Noxious weed introduction is limited by standard operating procedures and best management practices used as conditions of approval for surface use authorizations. These practices include, equipment washing, inspections and treatments to limit the spread or introduction of invasive, not-native species.

Native American Religious Concerns: On November 16, 2007 certified consultation letters were sent to the following Tribes: Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe, Navajo Nation, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, Nambe Pueblo, Ute Indian Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. The letter requested comments to be provided to the VFO within 30 days after receipt of the letter. The last return receipt received was dated November 29, 2007. On December 17, 2007 a letter from the Navajo Nation was received stating that the "...proposed undertaking/project area will not impact any Navajo traditional cultural properties or historical properties." As of January 4, 2008 no other concerns pertaining to leasing of the preliminary parcels have been received. Consultation is considered to be closed.

Special Status Species: In consideration of the 19 parcels from preliminary lease sale list for the February 2008 lease sale, a special status animal species and wildlife report and a special status plant species report have been prepared and can be reviewed in attachment 2. All appropriate lease notices and stipulations for federally listed and state sensitive species have been applied where species and/or habitat occur in association with these parcels. In accordance with Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174, all parcels would be subject to the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation. This stipulation is as follows:

"The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation."

In December 2004, BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel completed work on a set of programmatic level, lease notices for federally listed species occurring in Utah, that are to be attached to oil and gas leases offered in the State of Utah. On December 13, 2004, section 7 consultation was initiated with the submission of a memorandum to FWS, containing the lease notices. The FWS responded with a memorandum dated December 16, 2004 concurring with the BLM determination that attachment of the lease notices to appropriate lease parcels would constitute a "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determination for listed species in Utah. Detailed information on the inclusion of the appropriate lease notices and stipulations are contained in Attachments 1 and 2.

Based on the information and analysis provided in Attachment 2, and inclusion of all appropriate lease notices and stipulations, the February 2008 sale of oil and gas lease parcels complies with the 2004 FWS programmatic consultation and determination and no listed species are likely to be adversely affected by the proposed action.

ACECs: Existing ACECS, as identified in the BCRMP and DMRMP, as well as potential ACECs, identified in the draft Vernal RMP, were reviewed to determine if the identified relevant and important values constituted new significant information. GIS was used to identify parcels within existing and potential ACECs considered in Alternative C (has the most conservation potential) of the draft RMP that would be managed as either Category 1, 2, or 3 for oil and gas leasing as mitigation

for identified relevant values. Conclusions of this review may be found in the consolidated interdisciplinary team review and report. Three of the eleven parcels recommended for the February 2008 lease sale occur within existing as well as potential ACECs alternative A and C. Relevant and important values can be protected; therefore these parcels can go forward.

Paleontological Resources: Parcels UT0208-012 and UT0208-016 have a high probability for fossils of scientific importance. Lease notices to protect paleontological resources during ground disturbing activities have been applied to these parcels. High probability fossils are not significant new information because the lease notices added to these parcels would provide adequate protection.

Floodplains: Parcels UT0208-004, UT0208-005, UT0208-016, and UT0208-020, are within lands that contain floodplains that were not addressed in the RMPs. A lease notice that identifies the need to comply with the Floodplain Executive Order No 11988 would be added to the parcels and the resource would not be affected. The added lease notices would provide adequate protection for the resource.

4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?

Documentation and explanation:

The methodology and approach used in the analysis of all alternatives for the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS, and DMRMP/EIS identified under Part D.2, are still appropriate for the current proposed action. The methods of extractions, land requirements for exploration and development have not changed substantially since the documents were completed. Specifically the documents considered and analyzed the impacts resulting from preliminary investigations, exploratory drilling, development, production, and abandonment. The analyzed impacts considered in these documents have been verified through site-specific NEPA documents. These site specific documents may include analysis of any of these phases. Specifically EAs or EISs have been written that analyze the impacts of geophysical surveys (preliminary investigation), exploratory drilling and field development. Production and abandonment are also considered in the exploratory drilling and field development documents. The impact analysis disclosed in these documents verify the adequacy and accuracy of the general impact analysis in the EAR, BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Do the existing NEPA documents analyze impacts related to the current proposed action at a level of specificity appropriate to the proposal (plan level, programmatic level, project level)?

Documentation and explanation:

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be basically the same as those analyzed in the EISs associated with the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal Draft RMP/EIS. This is because the proposed action is essentially the same and the existing resource conditions and values have not changed since analysis in the EISs. The EISs used a somewhat general analysis of impacts, but these were tied to specific resources and values as present in the specific areas. Leasing categories were established dependent on resources and values in particular areas and stipulations were designed for each of these categories to protect these resources and

values. The RFDs further defined expected impacts to specific exploration and production regions. These analyses are therefore region specific and allow region specific location and identification of potential impacts of the current leasing proposal.

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be basically the same as those analyzed in the EAR. This is because the EAR analyzed, in general, the direct and indirect impacts of exploration and production activities that may result after an area, in the Vernal District Area is leased. Although the parcels currently under consideration were not specifically addressed, the impacts disclosed in the EAR are substantially the same as what may occur should the subject parcels be leased.

6. **Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Documentation and explanation:

The EISs and RFDs for the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP included analysis of the potential collective and cumulative impacts of oil and gas leasing. Information regarding past actions are included in these documents. Reasonably foreseeable scenarios are also spelled out for each document. Each subsequent document shows the incremental increase of cumulative impacts, as would be expected for an ongoing minerals program. The cumulative impact scenarios disclosed in these documents have been verified through development NEPA documents. Because the reasonably foreseeable level of oil and gas activity analyzed previously is still appropriate; potential cumulative impacts are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the EISs and RFDs.

7. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Documentation and explanation:

The public involvement and interagency review procedures and findings made through the development of the Environmental Analysis Record, Diamond Mountain Resource Area RMP/EIS, the Book Cliffs Resource Area RMP/EIS, and the Vernal Draft RMP/EIS are adequate for the proposed lease sale. During the development of the documents listed above, public workshops and meetings and public comments were received. All comments were responded to in the finalized documents.

- E. **Interdisciplinary Analysis:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet. An Interdisciplinary checklist is attached to this DNA.

Name	Title	Resource Represented
Chuck Patterson	Outdoor Recreation Planner	ACECs, Recreation, VRM

Stephanie Howard	Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Air Quality
Holly Villa	Natural Resource Specialist	LUP review, farmlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers
Amy Torres	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Animal Species, Wildlife
Gabrielle Elliott	Archaeologist	Paleontology Review
Gabrielle Elliott	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns,
Merlin Sinfield	Engineering Technician	Hazardous and Solid Wastes
Clayton Newberry	Botanist	Special Status Plant Species, Invasive, Non-native Plant Species
Steve Strong	Natural Resource Specialist	Soils, Watershed
Karl Wright	Natural Resource Specialist	Floodplains, Wetlands, Riparian

The results of the ID team reviews are documented in Attachment 2

For the February 2008 lease sale the programmatic ESA consultation from December of 2004 with USFWS was followed.

- F. Mitigation Measures:** The following Lease Notices and/or Lease Stipulations should be applied to the identified, subsequent parcels (these are in addition to those applied by the Utah State Office).

LEASE STIPULATIONS- WO-IM

1. Lease Stipulation-Cultural Resources (WO-IM-2005-003); This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels

"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." WO-IM 2005-03."

2. Lease Stipulation-Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation (WO-IM-2002-174): This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels.

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it

Attachment 1-DNA-VFO
February 2008 Lease Sale

completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

See attachment 1

CONCLUSIONS

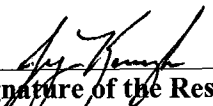
Based on the review documented above, I conclude that:

Plan Conformance:

- ☒ This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- ☐ This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- ☒ The existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.
- ☐ The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.



Signature of the Responsible Official

1-4-2008

Date

Attachments – 3

- Attachment 1, Vernal Preliminary Parcel List
- Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review
- Attachment 3, Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Checklist

UTAH FEBRUARY 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST
Vernal Only

UT0208- 004

(4198)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Secs. 25 and 26: ALL;

Sec. 27: N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE;

Sec. 35: N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE.

2,287.84 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-62: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on W2NE, NW, E2SW, NWSE Sec.35, 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds.
- UT-S- 53: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on lots 1-4, W2E2, W2 Sec.25; Sec.26; Sec.27; Sec.35 from March 1 thru June 30
- UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 on lot 1 Sec.25.
- UT-S-50: Antelope flat antelope fawning areas from May 1 through June 30 on lots 1-4, W2E2, W2 Sec.25; Sec.26; Sec.27, Sec.35.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle habitat on lots 1-3, W2NE, NW, N2SW, NWSE Sec.25; N2, N2S2 Sec.26; NE, N2NW Sec.27.
- UT-LN-11: Peregrine falcon habitat on lots 1, 2, W2NE, NW Sec.25; N2 Sec.26; NE, N2NW Sec.27.
- UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains (VFO) W2NW, NWNE Sec.25; W2, SWSE, NENE Sec.26; S2N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE, NWNW Sec.27; N2NW, NWNE, NESW, SESW Sec.35.
- UT-LN-60: Riparian (VFO) W2NW, NWNE Sec.25; W2, SWSE, NENE Sec.26; S2N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE, Sec.27; N2NW, NWNE, NESW, SESW Sec.35.
- UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.
- UT-LN-XX: (VFO) Habitat restoration projects exist on this parcel and may require compensatory mitigation.

UT0208- 005

(4199)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 14: SW;

Sec. 15: Lot 1-3, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 23: Lot 1-4, W2E2, W2SW.

927.12 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-53: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on lot 2, E2SW Sec.15 from March 1 thru June 30.
- UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the NESW Sec.23 from live water.
- UT-S-71: No Surface Occupancy, Red Mountain Potential Recreation Area NESE Sec.15

NOTICES

- UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains (VFO) NESW, lots 2, 3, 4, W2SE Sec.23.
- UT-LN-60: Riparian (VFO) NESW, lots 2, 3, 4, W2SE Sec.23.
- UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UTAH FEBRUARY 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST
Vernal Only

UT0208- 006

(4200)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: N2NE;

Sec. 26: N2NW.

160.00 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UT0208- 010

(4134)

T. 11 S., R. 14 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: E2NE.

80.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UT0208- 012

(4133)

T. 8 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 29: SWSE.

40.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UT0208- 013

(4125)

T. 9 S., R. 18 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 33: S2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UTAH FEBRUARY 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST
Vernal Only

UT0208- 014

(4251)

T. 5 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: N2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle habitat in Sec.25.

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk habitat in Sec.25.

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UT0208- 015

(4252)

T. 7 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 14: SWSW;

Sec. 15: SESE.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTAH FEBRUARY 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST
Vernal Only

UT0208- 016

(4168)

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: ALL;

Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2NE;

Sec. 5: Lot 3, 4, 6, 7, SWSE;

Sec. 6: Lot 2;

Sec. 8: Lot 2-6, E2NE, NESE;

Sec. 9: NE;

Sec. 10: NE, W2NW;

Sec. 17: Lot 1, 3.

1,977.57 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the W2SW of Sec. 3; Lots 2, 3, S2NE of Sec. 4 and the SWNW of Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: TL - Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Lots 1, 2, S2NE, W2SW, SE of Sec. 3 and the NE of Sec. 10.

UT-S-76: Closed To Leasing - Ouray National Wildlife Refuge in the E2SE Sec.3.

NOTICES

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the SWSW of Sec. 3; SENE of Sec. 4; Lots 6, 7 of Sec. 5; Lot 2 of Sec. 6; Lots 1-5, NESE of Sec. 8; NENE Sec.9.

UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains (VFO) SW Sec.3; lots 2, 3, SWNE Sec.4; W2NW Sec.10.

UT-LN-60: Riparian (VFO) lot 2, SENE Sec.8; W2NW Sec.10.

UT-LN-09: LEASE NOTICE - THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing habitat for the federally listed plant species *Sclerocactus wetlandicus* and other Category Species. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect these species and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UTAH FEBRUARY 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST
Vernal Only

UT0208- 017

(4214)

T. 5 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 15: Lot 1-8;
Sec. 22: Lot 1-2, S2NE;
Sec. 23: Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW.

794.55 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

- UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, SW of Sec. 23.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, SW of Sec. 23.
- UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 1-3, 7, 8 of Sec. 15; Lot 1 of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, NESW of Sec. 23.
- UT-LN-29: SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS: NOT FEDERALLY LISTED
The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Bureau-sensitive plant; *Astragalus hamiltonii*; not federally listed, and their habitats. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the special status plants and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.
- UT-LN-32: Severe Soil Erosion and Steep Slopes on Lots 2-8 Sec.15; Lot 1-2, S2NE Sec.22; Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW Sec.23.
- UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

UT0208- 020

(4170)

T. 5 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 3: Lot 1, SENE, E2SE;
Sec. 10: E2NE;
Sec. 11: NWNE, NW, W2SW;
Sec. 12: NE, NENW, NESE.

760.42 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

- UT-S-51: CSU – Red Mountain – Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the Lot 1, SENE, E2SE of Sec. 3; E2NE of Sec. 10; NWNE, NW, of Sec. 11 and the NE of Sec. 12.
- UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 in SWSW Sec.11.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the NE, NESE, NENW OF Sec. 11 and Sec. 12.
- UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains (VFO) lot 1, SENE, SESE Sec.3; E2NE Sec.10; SWSW Sec.11.
- UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on entire lease.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

Project Title: Oil and Gas Lease Parcels for February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

NEPA Log Number: UT-080-08-102

File/Serial Number:

Project Leader: H. Villa

FOR EAs: NP: not present; NI: resource/use present but not impacted; PI: potentially impacted
FOR DNAs only: NC: no change (anticipated resource impacts not changed from those analyzed in the NEPA document on which the DNA is based)

STAFF REVIEW OF PROPOSAL:

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
CRITICAL ELEMENTS		
NC	Air Quality	The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded by leasing of the parcels. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO ₂ covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Preliminary information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.
NI	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	Three of the eleven parcels going forward do fall within ACEC alt A and C. However these parcels fall within the oil and gas leasing categories of 1, 2, and 3 and therefore it was felt that they can go forward.
NI	Cultural Resources	Section 106 consultation was begun on November 28, 2007 and a concurrence letter was received on December 3, 2007 from SHPO stating that they concur with the finding of no adverse effect.
NI	Environmental Justice	According to the EPA Region VII, State of Utah Environmental Justice Map, the Uintah Basin has been categorized as a minority population area of 10 to 20% and a poverty population area of 10 to 20% (http://www.epa.gov/enviro/ej , 9/7/04). The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	None of the parcels contain lands that meet the criteria for prime, state important or unique farmlands.
NC	Floodplains	Parcels or portions of parcels having floodplains would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
		(COA) would be sufficient to prevent the spread or introduction of Invasive, Non-native species.
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Letters were sent to appropriate Native American groups. The Vernal Field Office allowed 30 days for the Native American groups to respond. No concerns about the lease parcels have been expressed.
NI	Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Special Status Species	See report, no special status species would be impacted by the proposed action if the mitigation measures are followed.
NP	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wasters were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.
NI	Water Quality (drinking/ground)	This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current Onshore Orders. These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Parcels or portions of parcels having riparian/aquatic areas would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	None of the parcels going forward for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.
NP	Wilderness	None of the parcels going forward for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.
OTHER RESOURCES / CONCERNS*		
NI	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA), including reclamation standards, would be sufficient to meet Rangeland Health Standards.
NI	Livestock Grazing	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA) would mitigate any potential impacts to livestock grazing (i.e., fenced pits, cattleguards and site reclamation).
NC	Woodland / Forestry	Given the application of standard operating procedures (SOPs), and site specific mitigation applied at the APD stage as conditions of approval (COA), it is concluded that woodland or forest resources would not be affected in a way not already analyzed in existing NEPA documents.
NI	Vegetation including Special Status plant species	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having plant concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
NI	Fish ,Wildlife, and Special Status	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having animal concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NI	Soils	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having soil would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NP	Recreation	There are no developed recreation facilities within the project area.
NC	Visual Resources	Visual resources were inventoried as part of the land use planning process. The potential impacts of oil and gas development on visual resources were adequately analyzed and documented in the RMP/EIS. Visual resources are managed consistent with the designations made in the RMPs. SOPs and COAs would mitigate impacts to visual resources.
NC	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	<p>The existing NEPA documents adequately address the impacts of oil and gas leasing, as the EAR addressed oil and gas operations and the impacts that could result from exploration through development.</p> <p>The EARs considered impacts to the natural terrain, such as landscape, scenery, and geologic features. Possible mitigations, such as avoidance, no surface occupancy, and relocation of facilities, were analyzed in the NEPA documents.</p> <p>Oil and gas exploration could lead to an increased understanding of the geologic setting, as subsurface data obtained through lease operations may become public record. This information promotes an understanding of mineral resources as well as geologic interpretation.</p> <p>Conflicts could arise between oil and gas operations and other mineral operations. These could generally be mitigated under the regulations 3101.1-2, where proposed oil and gas operations may be moved up to 200 meters or delayed by 60 days and also under the standard lease terms (Sec. 6) where siting and design of facilities may be modified to protect other resources.</p>
NI	Paleontology	Appropriate lease notices were added in areas where potential for paleontological resources are present. Surveys would be done, as needed, prior to surface disturbing activities. SOPs and COAs would ensure that paleontological resources are protected. These measures would include monitoring during initial construction when necessary.
NC	Lands / Access	Public lands administered by the BLM are available for leasing under the various lease categories prescribed in the RMP. Lessees are granted the right to access leases for exploration and development of oil and gas resources. Those same rights extend to split-estate lands and lands administered by other agencies when these lands are underlain by federal minerals.
NI	Socio-economics	Socio-economic conditions are adequately addressed in the existing NEPA record. The proposed actions considered the social and economic impacts that could be associated with oil and gas operations. The impacts include demands on social and governmental infrastructure, migration of people as work forces increase and decrease, changes in the tax base, economic growth and decline, and changes in social institutions.
NP	Wilderness characteristics	None of the parcels going forward for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

FINAL REVIEW

Reviewer Title	Date	Signature	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	1/4/08	Stephanie Howard	
Manager	1-4-2008	Jy Kemp	

**CONSOLIDATED INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEW
OF PRELIMINARY PARCELS FOR
February 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

The following information was provided by the interdisciplinary team assigned to review the proposed February 2008 lease sale parcels in the Uintah Basin. The offered parcels assessed in these reviews are: UT0208-001, UT0208-002, UT0208-003, UT0208-003, UT0208-004, UT0208-005, UT0208-006, UT0208-010, UT0208-012, UT0208-013, UT0208-014, UT0208-015, UT0208-016, UT0208-017, UT0208-018, UT0208-019, UT0208-020, UT0208-021, UT0208-022, and UT0208-023.

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Areas of Critical Environmental Concern –

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

UT0208- 001

(4195)

T. 3 N., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 13: Lot 1, 2, SE;
Sec. 24: N2NE, SENE, W2, SE;
Sec. 25: NE.

975.55 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Wildlife habitat for the entire lease from July 20 thru May 15.

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4

O+G Stipulations Category: 2

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 002

(4196)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 17: Lot 1-4, SW, N2SE, SWSE;
Secs. 18 and 19: ALL.

1,544.33 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 18 and Sec. 19 from July 20 thru May 15.

UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 17 from June 15 thru December 1.

- Subject to a Pre-sale offer

ACEC's: Not present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4

O+G Stipulations Category: 2

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 003

(4197)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 20: W2E2, SENE, W2;

Sec. 29: N2, W2SW, SESW, S2SE.

1,040.00 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from live water.

UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on the W2NE, W2 of Sec. 20 and Sec. 29 from July 20 thru May 15.

UT-S-07: Watershed on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from June 1 thru November 1.

* Subject to a Pre-sale offer

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4

O+G Stipulations Category: 2

Land Ownership: Not Present

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 004

(4198)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Secs. 25 and 26: ALL;

Sec. 27: N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE;

Sec. 35: N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE.

2,287.84 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease from live water.

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds.

UT-S-07: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on the entire lease from June 30 thru April 1

UT-S-07: Watershed on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed

Potential ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1, 2, 3

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas:

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas:

The following areas fall within the Red Creek Watershed Area of Critical Concern

Section 25 L1-4 NWNE, SWNE, NWSE, SWSE, NENW, SENW, NESW, NWNW, SWNW, NWSW

Section 26 NWNW, SWNW, NENW, SENW, NWNE, SWNE, NENE, SENE

Section 27 NWNW, NENW, NWNE, NENE

UT0208- 005

(4199)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 14: SW;

Sec. 15: Lot 1-3, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 23: Lot 1-4, W2E2, W2SW.

927.12 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed

Potential ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2,3 Recreation NSO Present

Land Ownership:BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

The Following areas fall within the Three Corners Campsite, and have a No Surface Occupancy stipulation C316 for the Red Mountain Potential Recreation Area which states:

No Surface occupancy or use is allowed on the Red Mountain Potential Recreation area

Section 15 NESE

The Following Areas Fall within the Red Creek Watershed ACEC

Section 15 L1-2

Section 14 NWSW, SWSW, NESW, SESW

UT0208- 006

(4200)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: N2NE;

Sec. 26: N2NW.

160.00 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 010

(4134)

T. 11 S., R. 14 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: E2NE.

80.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Nine Mile
Potential ACEC's: Nine Mile
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Nine Mile
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Nine Mile

The following areas fall within the Nine Mile Special Rec. Management Area, and the Nine Mile Area of Critical Concern:

Section 22 E2NE All

UT0208- 012

(4133)

T. 8 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 29: SWSE.

40.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 013

(4125)

T. 9 S., R. 18 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 33: S2NW.

80.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 014

(4251)

T. 5 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 25: N2NW.

80.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Applicable
Potential ACEC's: Not Applicable
Potential WSR's: Not Applicable
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Applicable
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Applicable
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Not Applicable
O+G Stipulations Category: Not Applicable
Land Ownership: Private
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

UT0208- 015

(4252)

T. 7 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 14: SWSW;

Sec. 15: SESE.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential WSR's: Not Applicable

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Applicable

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Applicable

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Not Applicable

O+G Stipulations Category: Not Applicable

Land Ownership: Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

UT0208- 016

(4168)

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: ALL;

Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2NE;

Sec. 5: Lot 3, 4, 6, 7, SWSE;

Sec. 6: Lot 2;

Sec. 8: Lot 2-6, E2NE, NESE;

Sec. 9: NE;

Sec. 10: NE, W2NW;

Sec. 17: Lot 1, 3.

1,977.57 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the W2SW of

Sec. 3; Lots 2, 3, S2NE of Sec. 4 and the SWNW of Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: TL - Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Lots 1, 2, S2NE, W2SW, SE of Sec. 3 and the NE of

Sec. 10.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the SWSW of Sec. 3; SENE of Sec. 4; Lots 6, 7 of

Sec. 5; Lot 2 of Sec. 6 and Lots 1-5, NESE of Sec. 8.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category:1,2
Land Ownership:BLM, Private
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 017

(4214)

T. 5 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 15: Lot 1-8;
Sec. 22: Lot 1-2, S2NE;
Sec. 23: Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW.

794.55 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW,

SW of Sec. 23.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW,

SW of Sec. 23.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 1-3, 7, 8 of Sec. 15; Lot 1 of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, NESW of Sec. 23.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category:1,2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 018

(4127)

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 20: S2SE.

80.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the entire lease.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 019

(4169)

T. 15 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 19: E2NE, NESE;
Sec. 21: W2, W2SE, SESE;
Sec. 22: SWSW;
Sec. 28: N2SE, SESE;
Sec. 33: NE.

880.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-18: TL - Sage Grouse seasonal nesting and strutting period on the SESE of Sec. 22.
UT-S-19: CSU - Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds on the SESES of Sec. 22.

ACEC's: None Present
Potential ACEC's: Main Canyon
Potential WSR's: None Present
Wilderness Study Areas: None Present
Wilderness Characteristics: None Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently 4, Alt E Class 1, 2
O+G Stipulations Category: 1
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Book Cliffs

Under alternative E, the following areas will fall under VRM Class 1 which states:
Objective: To preserve the existing character of the landscape.
Level of change to the landscape should be very low; and must not attract attention
Provides for Natural ecological change (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

Section 19 NENE, SENE, NESE
Section 21 NW, SW, NWSE, SWSE N ½ of SESE,
Section 22 NW ¼ of SWSW

Under alternative E the following areas will fall under VRM Class 2 which states:
Objective: To retain the existing character of the landscape
Level of change to the landscape should be low
Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the natural features of the landscape - form, line, color, & Texture
Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the observer. (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

Section 21 SE ¼ of SWSE, S ½ of the SESE
Section 22 N2/3 of the SWSW
Section 26 NWSE, NESE, SESE
Section 33 NE

Under Alternative A and Alternative C the following areas will fall under the Proposed Book Cliffs SRMA which states:

Alt A) 273,486 acres in the Book Cliffs would be managed as a SRMA and an integrated activity plan would be developed and implemented to maintain a frontier mystique of adventure and discovery (unconfined recreation, limited facilities). The recreational portion of the plan would provide for the following uses: wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking, back packing, OHV use, camping, cultural values including petroglyph viewing, picnicking, mountain biking, photography, back country horse riding, and visits to turn of the century homesteads. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

Alt C) Same as Alternative A except Wolf point, Bitter Creek drainages, and the head of Sweetwater Canyon would be closed to leasing. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

All areas within the parcel

Alternative C Main Canyon ACEC

All sections in this parcel would fall within the Proposed Main Canyon ACEC should alternative C be selected.

The Main Canyon ACEC description states:

100,915 acres in Main Canyon would be designated as an ACEC. Special management attention would include permitting surface disturbing activities found to be complimentary or compatible to the goals and objectives of the ACEC. The area would be closed or managed with timing and controlled surface use for oil and gas leasing. Visual Resources would be managed as Class I or II. OHV use would be closed or limited to designated routes. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-57)

All areas within the parcel

UT0208- 020

(4170)

T. 5 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 3: Lot 1, SENE, E2SE;
Sec. 10: E2NE;
Sec. 11: NWNE, NW, W2SW;
Sec. 12: NE, NENW, NESE.

760.42 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: CSU – Red Mountain – Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
on
the Lot 1, SENE, SE of Sec. 3; E2NE of Sec. 10; NWNE, NW, E2SW OF Sec. 11 and the
NE of
Sec. 12.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the NWNE, E2W2 OF Sec. 11 and Sec. 12.

ACEC's: None Present
Potential ACEC's: None Present
Potential WSR's: None Present
Wilderness Study Areas: None Present
Wilderness Characteristics: None Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category:1,2
Land Ownership: BLM, Private
Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 021

(4171)

T. 8 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 3: Lot 1, 2, 7, 8.

121.13 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: None Present
Potential ACEC's: None Present
Potential WSR's: None Present
Wilderness Study Areas: None Present
Wilderness Characteristics: None Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category:1
Land Ownership:BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 022

(4189)

T. 6 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 26: S2N2;
Sec. 33: ALL.

800.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the W2E2, W2 of Sec. 33.

ACEC's: None Present
Potential ACEC's: None Present
Potential WSR's: None Present
Wilderness Study Areas: None Present
Wilderness Characteristics: None Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1
Land Ownership:BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 023

(4192)

T. 15 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: ALL;

Sec. 3: Lot 1-6, S2N2, N2SW, SE;

Sec. 11: N2NE, SENE;

Sec. 12: ALL;

Sec. 18: Lot 3, 4, NESW, SE.

2,315.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-16: TL – Crucial Elk Calving and Deer Fawning Habitat on Lots 3, 4, SW, W2SE of Sec. 12 and Lots 3, 4, NESW, SE of Sec. 18.

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: Bitter Creek/P.R. Springs

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present but Adjacent to Sweet Water Evaluation that found Wilderness character in Section 11 SWNE, NWSE, and NESE

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: currently 4 proposed under Alternative E class 2

O+G Stipulations Category: Falls under Book Cliffs Stipulations, unable to identify from layer file

Land Ownership: BLM, Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Book Cliffs

If Alternative E were selected, the following areas under BLM management would fall within VRM Class 2 which states:

Objective: To retain the existing character of the landscape

Level of change to the landscape should be low

Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the natural features of the landscape – form, line, color, & Texture

Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the observer. (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

All Parcels

Under Alternative A and Alternative C the following areas will fall under the Proposed Book Cliffs SRMA which states:

Alt A) 273,486 acres in the Book Cliffs would be managed as a SRMA and an integrated activity plan would be developed and implemented to maintain a frontier mystique of adventure and discovery (unconfined recreation, limited facilities). The recreational portion of the plan would provide for the following uses: wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking, back packing, OHV use, camping, cultural values including petroglyph viewing, picnicking, mountain biking, photography, back country horse riding, and visits to turn of the century homesteads. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

Under Alternative A the following areas will fall under the Proposed Bitter Creek/P.R. Springs ACEC which states:

The 147,425-acre potential Bitter Creek-P.R. Springs ACEC...includes all the features of the Bitter Creek ACEC in addition to Sweetwater Canyon, Tom Patterson Canyon, P.R. Canyon, Railroad Canyon, and the Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA. The relevance and importance criteria are the same as Bitter Creek. (VDRMP and EIS pg 3-82) This implicates the Bitter Creek Plan under Alternative A which states:

68,834 acres referred to as Bitter Creek would be designated as an ACEC/Research Natural Area to protect high-value, old-growth pinyon pines, cultural resources, historical features, and watersheds. Special management actions would include the following: establishing a research/monitoring program; enhancing habitat utilizing forest manipulation and tree spraying, and restricting wood-cutting around old-growth pinion. For oil and gas leasing, the area would be managed with timing and controlled surface use, except for 160 acres containing old-growth pinion pines (T13S, R25E, Section 35, SESE), which would be managed as a NSO, and the 400 acre Mountain Browse Natural Area would be closed to leasing. VRM class designations would be I, II or III, and OHV use would be closed or limited to designated routes. (VDRMP and EIS pg 2-54 and 2-55)

Based on a Wilderness Character Review the following areas would either be adjacent to, or close to a border with an area defined as having wilderness character. (GIS layer WildernessCharacterReview_vn24_dz containing the review field Sweet Water)

Section 11 SENE

Air Quality –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator

The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded by leasing of the parcels. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO₂ covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Preliminary information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.

Cultural Resources –

Submitted By: Gabrielle Elliott, VFO Archaeologist

A Cultural Resource Evaluation & Comments Concerning the August 2007 Oil & Gas Lease Sale in Uintah County, Utah.

Introduction:

The Following Listed lease sale parcels are proposed for leasing in the February, 2008 lease sale. The purpose of this document is to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 19 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in a list provided by the Utah BLM State Office, Branch of Fluid Minerals, Salt Lake City, Utah in November, 2007 to the Vernal Utah BLM Field Office. The analytic unit/APE is the lease sale parcel's external boundary as defined in the lease document. The one well per parcel theory is followed in this document.

The Vernal Field Office cultural resource records review for the February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Parcels adequately summarizes previous archaeological inventories and known cultural sites located on the proposed parcels. The impact analysis for each parcel is based on the assumption that one 5 acre well pad and associated access road would be drilled on each parcel. The associated access road to the well may be circuitous in nature; however, due to avoidance of eligible cultural resource sites. The area analyzed in the review consists of an Area of Potential Effect (APE) defined by the legal descriptions of parcels being offered for lease in the February 2008 sale.

Based on the November 19-22, 2007 records search, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one well pad and associated access road can occur without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources on 11 parcels. The documented cultural resources are located in such a fashion that avoidance is feasible for the development of oil and gas potential therefore the staff archaeologist determined that under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No Historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4" for the February, 2008 oil and gas lease sale. On all parcels, however, once a project specific proposal is submitted and prior to the approval of construction or any ground disturbing activity, an additional Section 106 cultural resource assessment would be completed where site specific issues would be addressed as appropriate. Likewise, the presence of newly found cultural resources in the 19 parcels may cause additional parameters to be placed upon development strategies in areas within the parcels.

Consultation letters were mailed to the Northern Ute Indian Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Ute Mountain Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Goshute Tribe, the Laguna Pueblo, the Nambe Pueblo, the Northwestern Shoshone Tribe, the Southern Ute Tribe, the Santa Clara Pueblo, the White Mesa Tribe, and the Zia Pueblo on November 15 regarding this project. They were requested to identify traditional cultural properties or any other areas of traditional cultural importance that need to be considered within the project proximity. The Utah State Historic Preservation Office was also mailed a certified letter on November 26, 2007 regarding this project.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern

This class 1 overview addresses the archaeology of the February, 2008 oil & gas lease sale and utilizes data current to the date of this document, November, 2007.

Recommendations for Leasing:

The following listed factors were utilized by the VFO archaeologist in determining a lease parcel's sensitivity for the presence or absence of significant archaeological and ethnographic Period sites and areas sensitive to those Tribes who claim a cultural affiliation in N.E. Utah.

1. Known site density
2. Inventory status, class II or III

3. Inventory results
4. Topographic setting
5. soil types and erodibility class
6. Site types in and near a parcel
7. Parcel intra unit variability; topography, water, lithic sources, slopes, elevation etc
8. Statistical modeling results for an area, stratum, factor
9. Past land use patterns
10. Modern land use patterns
11. Archaeological community knowledge
12. land ownership

Parcels listed for leasing:

UT0208-01-06; UT0208-10 & 12; UT0208-12-23.

Land ownership is BLM, State of Utah, various agencies, and private. Maps are attached so as to orient the reviewer as to the location, size and configuration of the lease parcels in Uintah Duchesne and Daggett Counties in North Eastern, Utah for the February, 2008 lease sale.

Cultural Resources:

Recorded sites are present in seven parcels with thirteen sites present in or by the parcels.

Figure #1: Site description

Parcel #	Site #	Site Type	Site Age	Eligibility	Misc.
#14	42UN2675	Ouray Park Canal	Historic	Eligible	
#14	42UN858	Open camp	Prehistoric	Eligible out of parcel.	
#15	42UN2675	Ouray park canal	Historic	Eligible	
#16	42UN2019	Lithic Scatter	Prehistoric	eEligible	
#16	42UN2788	Open camp	Prehistoric	Ineligible	Erosion
#16	42UN2018	Pot Drop	Prehistoric	Ineligible	Fremont
#19	42Un1125	Rock Shelter	Prehistoric	Eligible	
#19	42UN1143	Lithic Scatter	Prehistoric	Ineligible	
#19	42UN1144	Lithic Scatter	Prehistoric	Ineligible	
#19	42UN1145	Rock Shelter	Prehistoric	Eligible	
#19	42UN1193	No data			
#20	42UN2958	Canal	Historic	Eligible	
#02	42DA550	Hearth	Prehistoric	Ineligible	buried
#04	42DA1360	No data			

Site Location Discussion:

Parcel #14: The Ouray Park Canal, 42UN2675, was and is part of an extensive irrigation system managed by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for N.E. Utah. Many of these canals date back to the early 20th century when agriculture was developing in the Uinta Basin. Prehistoric Period site 42UN 858 is located on an open bench southeast of the lease sale parcel. It was mentioned as representative of a site type which may be present in the parcel.

Parcel #15: The Ouray park canal runs through this parcel; other canals are located to the west of this parcel and form an extensive irrigation network. BOR has the histories of these canals and have recorded them. The canals followed natural drainages and were often dug into preexisting stream channels.

Parcel#16: Sites located in this parcel are located on bench remnants near the heads of drainages whose waters flow into the White Rocks River. Numerous sites are located on the flood plains adjacent to the river and were recorded during the Utah water projects of the late 1970s. The sites in the parcel are associated with sandy bench remnants or low interfluves associated with the clay/rock basins further east of the Tribal/BLM boundary. Site 42UN2018 is a ceramic pot drop of a broken vessel associated with the Formative Period Fremont. These sites may be associated with the Formative Period sites located by Sisson during the Central Utah project.

Parcel#19: The sites located in this parcel are associated with the P/J zone which exists at the crest of the Book Cliff Divide and the heads of the canyons which drain to the south away from the Book Cliffs. Vegetation resources are stratified by elevation, slope, water and soils, all in a short distance of each other. Elk and deer are also common in this area till late fall or early winter when migration to lower elevations occurs.

Parcel #20: This parcel is located on the Mancos benches known as Sunshine Bench. Ashley Creek flows at the foot of the escarpment's west face. 42UN2462 is a Historic Period canal dug into the clays for an irrigation system sometime during the early to middle 20th Century. Site 42UN2462 is adjacent to the parcel however data is not present in this Office's files. Local farmers who maintain the canal have informed me about burials being uncovered while maintaining the ditch.

Parcel #02: This parcel is located in the Pigeon Basin area of Daggett County, Utah. One site, 42DA550 is known. It is a buried hearth which has not been tested. This indicates a potential for other buried features and/or sites in the parcel.

Parcel#4: This parcel is situated on Goslin Mountain, a reverse tilted thrust block forming a major topographic features of the North Flanks of the Uinta Mountains. Two sites have been recorded in the parcel; these are 42DA1341 & 1360. At this time IMACs forms for these two sites have not been located. This author's experiences on Goslin is led to think the sites may be Historic Period camps associated with hunting or grazing activities. Another possibility these are

temporary camps associated with the Prehistoric Period utilization of the Uintas. Numerous Prehistoric Period sites are known on lands administered by the Ashley national Forest.

Parcel Sensitivity Rankings:

Rankings for site sensitivity are based on the results of inventories done to date. Mainly these are oil and gas surveys, road Rights-of-Ways, power line Rights-of-Ways, waterline, pipeline surveys etc. Other data sources were the oil shale inventories of the late 1970s and 1980s. Rankings are also based on the probability for site preservation due to topographic factors mentioned above, current land uses, soil stability, and known water sources. The number of known sites in a parcel is also used as a discriminating factor.

A **LOW** rating is predicated on the results of previous inventories in and near the parcel whose results indicated sites were not present and/or preservation factors were not conducive to site preservation e.g. erosion, steep slopes, highly erodable soils; for example parcel #20 is located on a Mancos Bench where several settling pond inventories equaling several hundred acres did not locate sites. The work was done by several archaeologists at a variety of times. Parcel #12 is located in Wells Draw, its floor and the side of the draw are steep and whose soils are unstable. Numerous energy related inventories have been done which resulted in the location of four CCC dams. These are readily observable to the casual observer. Parcels #10 & 18 previous inventories in and near this area have yet to record significant sites. Parcel #17 is characterized by steep slopes, and heavily dissected colluvial slopes. Parcel #20, Sections 3, 11 & 12; Section 3 has been inventoried at a 100% level without results; Sections 11 & 12 is a Mancos Shale bench with steep unstable escarpment slopes on the west side of the parcel. The surface is an ATV recreation area and has been heavily impacted by this and other uses. Parcel #21, has the same physical characteristics as Parcel #21 and is near this parcel. Parcel #22, Section #33, this portion of this parcel is along the West Fork of Walker Hollow. The terrain is characterized by Mancos Shale sediments which are unstable and are easily eroded. The flanks of this draw are steep and unstable while the floor of the draw is deeply buried by valley fill sediments derived from the draw's slopes. The Valley floor is deeply incised by vertical walled arroyos which have yet to show any evidence of buried occupations.

1. **High:** Parcels number# 02, 04, 14-16, 19, 20, 23.
2. **Medium:** Parcels #01, 03 13, 14, 16, Sections 3 & 6; 5, 6, 19, Sections 28 & 33; 22, Section 26;
- 3.. **Low:** Parcels #10, 12, 16, Section 9, 10, 17; Parcels# 17, 18, parcels# 20, Sections 3, 11 & 12; parcel#21; Parcel# 22, Section 33.

Based on this analysis, the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing will not be adversely affected by adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1. A "No Adverse Effect" Determination is recommended. This determination is based upon the above listed physical factors and the physical descriptions provided to the reviewer of this document. Avoidance is practiced by the VFO where possible, otherwise mitigation is implemented through Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Traditional Cultural Properties are always avoided and a protective buffer is implemented for a .5 mile radius.

Other: The provisions of I.M. 2005-003 will be followed during this lease sale as it explains the tiered process of the fluid minerals program.

A lease sale may have the following stipulation added:

"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedoms Act, (AIRFA), The Native American graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activities that may effect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated."

Environmental Justice –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard Environmental Coordinator

According to the EPA Region VII, State of Utah Environmental Justice Map, the Uintah Basin has been categorized as a minority population area of 10 to 20% and a poverty population area of 10 to 20% (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/ej>, 9/7/04). The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.

Farmlands (Unique or Prime) –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

No prime or unique farmlands exist within the area.

Floodplain, Riparian and Public Water Reserves –

Submitted By: Karl Wright, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

Sources: Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plans, BLM Utah State Riparian Policy, Public Water Reserve Executive Order 107 and Flood Plain Executive Order No. 11988.

Methodology: Lease sale parcels were compared to the Book Cliff and Diamond Mountain RMP's, the Vernal Field Office GIS data base for Riparian Inventory, 100 Year Floodplain, and Public Water Reserves. The RMP stipulations continue as stated in the RMP's. Where new data has been acquired the following stipulations should be applied to be in compliance with the minimum requirements with in the above mentioned riparian policy and executive orders.

RIPARIAN AREAS LEASE NOTICE

The parcels listed as Riparian Lease Notice in the table below were not inventoried at the time the RMP's were completed. The following constraints need to be applied.

LEASE NOTICE – RIPARIAN AREAS

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing riparian areas. Surface occupancy or use is subject to BLM State Riparian Policy (Instruction Memorandum UT89-192). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the riparian area in accordance with the following riparian policy constraint: No surface use will be allowed within 100 meters of riparian areas unless it can be shown that: 1) There is no practicable alternative; 2) All long-term impacts are fully mitigated; or, 3) Construction is an enhancement to the riparian areas. Protection of riparian areas was discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78) and the Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (p. 2-36, 2-37). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells.

FLOODPLAIN STIPULATION

The parcels listed as Floodplain Stipulation in the table were mapped as critical flood plain but were not listed with the stipulations. The following constraints need to be applied according to the Bookcliffs RMP.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints.

- No surface use will be allowed within the 100 year floodplains of the Bitter, Evacuation, Hill, Sweetwater, and Willow Creeks or the Green and White Rivers.

On the lands described below:

- For the purpose of: Protection of floodplains and wetlands as discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78). This stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

FLOODPLAIN LEASE NOTICE

The parcels listed as Floodplain Lease Notice in the table were not included as floodplain in the RMP's. The following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Floodplain Executive order 11988.

LEASE NOTICE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in the lease have been identified as potentially containing 100-year floodplains. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Floodplain Executive Order No. 11988. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the floodplains

in accordance with the executive order as follows: If the only practical alternative requires the sitting in the floodplain, the action shall be modified in order to minimize potential harm to or within the floodplain; reduce the risk of flood loss; minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and, restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated or the resource values have changed.

PUBLIC WATER RESERVES

The parcels listed as Public Water Reserve Notice in the table were not included with in the RMP's and the following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Public Water Reserve with draws.

LEASE STIPULATION PUBLIC WATER RESERVE

No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the designated Public Water Reserve is allowed under this lease in order to protect the designated public water reserve.

LEASE NOTICE – PUBLIC WATER RESERVE

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as a designated Public Water Reserve. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the reserve up to and including no surface occupancy or use. Protection of a designated public water reserve as discussed in Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107 and the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 123). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells. This lease notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

The only parcels listed are those that need to have the Stipulations/Lease Notices added that are mentioned above. The other parcels already contain adequate stipulations/notices or do not contain Floodplain, riparian, or public water reserves.

Parcel No.	Legal Description	Stipulation/Lease Notice
UT0208-001	T 3N, R 22E Sec 24, SENE, W2NW	Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice
UT0208-002	T 3N, R 23E Sec 17, SW, NWSE, SWSE, Sec 18, all Sec 19, S2	Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0208-003	T 3N, R 23E Sec 20, SWNW Sec 20, SW Sec 29, S2SW	PWR, Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice PWR, Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice
UT0208-004	T 3N, R 23E Sec 25, W2NW, NWNE Sec 26, W2, SWSE, NENE Sec 27, S2N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE Sec 27, NWNW Sec 35 N2NW, NWNE, NESW, SESW	Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice

Parcel No.	Legal Description	Stipulation/Lease Notice
UT0208-005	T. 3N. R 25E Sec. 23 NESW Sec. 23 Lots 2,3,4, W2SE	PWR, Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice
UT0208-006	T. 3S. R 25E	NONE
UT0208-010	T. 11S. R 14E	NONE
UT0208-012	T. 8S. R 16E	NONE
UT0208-013	T. 9S. R 18E	NONE
UT0208-014	T. 5S. R 19E	NONE
UT0208-015	T. 7S. R 20E Sec. 14, SWSW Sec. 15, SESE	Private surface No data Private surface No data
UT0208-016	T. 8S. R 20E Sec. 3, SW Sec. 4, Lots 2, 3, SWNE Sec. 8, Lot 2, SENE Sec. 9, NE Sec. 10, W2 NW	Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice Private surface No data Floodplain Notice, Riparian Notice
UT0208-017	T. 5S. R 21E Sec. 15, Lots 1-8 Sec. 22, Lots 1-2, S2NE Sec. 23, Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW	Very steep except NESE Very steep steep
UT0208-018	T. 7S. R 21E Sec. 20, S2SE	Floodplain Notice
UT0208-019	T. 15S. R 21E Sec. 19, E2NE, NESE Sec. 28, N2SE, SESE Sec. 33, NE	Steep, directionally drill Steep, directionally drill Steep, directionally drill
UT0208-020	T. 5S. R 22E Sec. 3, Lot 1, SENE, SESE Sec. 10, E2NE Sec. 11, SWSW	Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0208-021	T. 8S. R 22E	None
UT0208-022	T. 6S. R 23E Sec. 33, S2NE, NENW,	Floodplain Notice

Parcel No.	Legal Description	Stipulation/Lease Notice
UT0208-023	T. 15S. R 24E Sec. 1, NENW, NWNE, Sec. 3, LotS 4 & 5, SWNW, NWSW, Sec. 18, Lots 3 & 4, NESW	Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice, Floodplain Stipulation (NSO for Sweetwater) Floodplain Notice, Riparian Notice

Hazardous/Solid Wastes –

Submitted By: Merlin Sinfield, VFO HazMat Coordinator

This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wasters were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.

LUP Review –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

***portions in blue have been added or changed, portions with a strikethrough have been deleted**

UT0208- 001

STIPULATIONS

~~UT-S-07: Wildlife habitat for the entire lease from July 20 thru May 15.~~

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 on lot 1, 2, SE Sec.13; Sec.24; Sec.25.

UT-S-50: Antelope flat antelope fawning areas from May 1 through June 30 in S2NW, S2 Sec.24; Sec.25.

NOTICE

UT-LN-17: Golden Eagle habitat on lot 1, 2, SE Sec.13; Sec.24; and Sec.25.

UT0208- 002

STIPULATIONS

~~UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 18 and Sec. 19 from July 20 thru May 15.~~

~~UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 17 from June 15 thru December 1.~~

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 in Sec.17; lots 1-6, E2SW, SE Sec.18; lots 1-4, E2, E2W2, and Sec.19.

UT-S-50: Antelope flat antelope fawning areas from May 1 through June 30 on lots 3, 4, E2SW, SE Sec.19.

NOTICE

UT-LN-17: Golden Eagle habitat in W2SW, SESW, SWSE Sec.17; lots 2-6, E2SW, SE Sec.18; lots1-4, E2, E2W2 Sec.19

UT0208- 003

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-04: ~~No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from live water.~~
UT-S-07: ~~Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on the W2NE, W2 of Sec. 20 and Sec. 29 from July 20 thru May 15.~~
UT-S-07: ~~Watershed on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from June 1 thru November 1.~~
UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 in Sec.20; NWNW Sec.29.
UT-S-50: Antelope flat antelope fawning areas from May 1 through June 30 in SW Sec.20; Sec.29.

NOTICE

- UT-LN-17: Golden Eagle habitat in Sec.20; N2, W2SW, SESW Sec.29.

UT0208- 004

(4198)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Secs. 25 and 26: ALL;

Sec. 27: N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE;

Sec. 35: N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE.

2,287.84 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-04: ~~No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease from live water.~~
UT-S-62: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease NWNE, NWNW, SWNW, SESW, NWSE, NENW 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds.
UT-S-53: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on the entire lease lots 1-4, W2E2, W2 Sec.25; Sec.26; Sec.27; Sec.35 from March 1 thru June 30.
UT-S-07: ~~Watershed on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.~~
UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 on lot 1 Sec.25.
UT-S-50: Antelope flat antelope fawning areas from May 1 through June 30 on lots 1-4, W2E2, W2 Sec.25; Sec.26; Sec.27, Sec.35.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-17: Golden Eagle habitat on lots 1-3, W2NE, NW, N2SW, NWSE Sec.25; N2, N2S2 Sec.26; NE, N2NW Sec.27.
UT-LN-11: Peregrine falcon habitat on lots 1, 2, W2NE, NW Sec.25; N2 Sec.26; NE, N2NW Sec.27.

UT0208- 005

STIPULATION

- UT-S-07: ~~Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.~~
UT-S-53: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on lot 2, E2SW Sec.15 from March 1 thru June 30.

UT0208- 006

STIPULATION

- UT-S-07: ~~Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.~~

UT0208- 010

OK

UT0208- 012
OK

UT0208- 013
OK

UT0208- 014

NOTICES

UT-LN-17: Golden Eagle habitat in Sec.25.

UT-LN-14: Ferruginous Hawk habitat in Sec.25.

UT0208- 015
OK

UT0208- 016

UT-S-76: Closed To Leasing - Ouray National Wildlife Refuge in the E2SE Sec.3.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the SWSW of Sec. 3; SENE of Sec. 4; Lots 6, 7 of Sec. 5; ~~Lot 2 of Sec. 6~~; Lots ~~1-5~~ 2-4, NESE of Sec. 8; NENE Sec.9.

UT0208- 017
OK

UT0208- 018

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: ~~Severe soil erosion on the entire lease.~~

UT0208- 019

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-18: TL - Sage Grouse seasonal nesting and strutting period on the ~~SESE~~ SWSW of Sec. 22.

UT-S-19: CSU - Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds on the ~~SESES~~ SWSW of Sec. 22.

NOTICES

UT-LN-01: Severe Winter Conditions on Entire Lease.

UT0208- 020

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on

the Lot 1, SENE, E2SE of Sec. 3; E2NE of Sec. 10; NWNE, NW, ~~E2SW~~ OF Sec. 11 and the NE of Sec. 12.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30 in SWSW Sec.11.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the ~~NWNE, E2W2~~ NE, NESE, NENW OF Sec. 11 and Sec. 12.

UT0208- 021
OK

UT0208- 022
OK

UT0208- 023
STIPULATION

UT-S-16: TL – Crucial Elk Calving and Deer Fawning Habitat on Lots 3, 4, SW, W2SE S2 of Sec. 12
and

Lots 3, 4, NESW, SE of Sec. 18.

NOTICES

UT-LN-01: Severe Winter Conditions on Entire Lease.

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on lot 2, SWNE, W2SW Sec.1; lots 1, 2, 3, 6, SENW, S2NE, NESW, SE
Sec.3

Paleontology –

Submitted By: Gabrielle Elliott, Archaeologist

Paleontology: As the paleontology coordinator for the Vernal Field Office I have reviewed all of the preliminary 19 lease parcels for the Vernal Field Office February 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan (DMRMP/EIS) on Page 4.2 identifies that significant fossils are present within the boundaries of the Vernal Field Office. On Page 4.13 of the DMRMP/EIS impacts to paleontologic resources were identified for each alternative considered in Chapter 4 - Environmental Consequences of the environmental impact statement.

In addition to the resource protection provided in the existing resource management plans, paleontologic resources are also protected by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended; the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 as amended; the BLM Manual 8270 Paleontological Resource Management; the BLM Handbook H-8270-1 – General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management; and 43 CFR Subparts 3610, 3622, 3802, 3809 and 8365. For prospective lease areas that are deemed to have a moderate or high potential for paleontological resources modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect paleontological resources from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Methods: Geologic maps were used to identify which geologic formations are present within each individual lease parcel (Stokes and Madsen, 1961; Cashion and others, 1973; Rowely and others, 1985; Witkind, I. J., 1995 and Sprinkle, D. A., 2006a & 2006b). BLM internal data files, GIS Paleontologic Locality Data and locality maps (USGS Orthophoto 1:24,000 scale Quadrangles and BLM, 2003) were consulted to identify any fossil resources within the same section or within 1 mile from each lease parcel. This analysis conforms to NEPA requirements of 1969 as outlined in (P.L. 91-

190; 31 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 44321-4327) and FLPMA of 1976 (P.L. 94-579; 90 Stat. 2743, U.S.C. 1701-1782).

Executive Summary: Field inventory maps and files, and geologic maps have been reviewed for the VFO. The following parcels UT 0208-001, UT 0208-002, UT 0208-003, UT 0208-004, UT0208-005, UT0208-006, UT0208-010, UT0208-013, UT0208-014, UT0208-015, UT0208-017, UT0208-018, UT0208-019, UT0208-020, UT0208-021, UT0208-022, UT0208-023 do not require a paleontology lease notice for paleontological resources.

The following parcels require a paleontology lease notice (**UT-LN-30**) for paleontological resources added: UT 0208-012; and UT 0208-016. The lease notice (**UT-LN-21**) for parcels with a moderate or high probability for fossils of scientific importance should read: **"The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this parcel have the potential to yield significant paleontological resources. Modifications to the Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect paleontological resources from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms and 43 CFR 3101.1-2"**.

FEBRUARY 2008 LEASE SALE
For Lease Parcels within the Vernal Field Office Resource Area

UT0208-012 T. 8S, R16E, SEC 29 SWSE (40 Acres, Duchesne County, Utah).

- There is a **HIGH** probability for fossils of scientific importance in this area.
- **A lease notice (UT-LN-21) is required for this parcel**

UT0208-016 T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Sec. 3- ALL. SEC 4:, Lots 1- 4, S2NE; SEC 5: Lots 3,4,6,7, SWSE; SEC 6: Lot 2; SEC 8: Lots 2-6, E2NE, NESE; SEC 9:NE; SEC10:NE, W2NW; SEC 17: Lots 1, 3.; (1977.57 Acres, Uintah County, Utah).

- There is a **HIGH** probability for fossils of scientific importance in this area.
- **A lease notice (UT-LN-21) is required for this parcel** in Sec.3 SWSW; SEC 4SENE; SEC 5, Lots 6,7; SEC 6, Lot 2 and SEC 8 NESE, Lots 1-5.

Recreation and Visual Resources –

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

UT0208- 001

(4195)

T. 3 N., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 13: Lot 1, 2, SE;
Sec. 24: N2NE, SENE, W2, SE;
Sec. 25: NE.

975.55 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Wildlife habitat for the entire lease from July 20 thru May 15.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4
O+G Stipulations Category: 2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 002

(4196)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 17: Lot 1-4, SW, N2SE, SWSE;
Secs. 18 and 19: ALL.

1,544.33 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 18 and Sec. 19 from July 20 thru May 15.
UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 17 from June 15 thru December 1.

- Subject to a Pre-sale offer

ACEC's: Not present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4
O+G Stipulations Category: 2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 003

(4197)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 20: W2E2, SENE, W2;
Sec. 29: N2, W2SW, SESW, S2SE.

1,040.00 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from live water.
UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on the W2NE, W2 of Sec. 20 and Sec. 29 from July 20 thru May 15.
UT-S-07: Watershed on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from June 1 thru November 1.

* Subject to a Pre-sale offer

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4
O+G Stipulations Category: 2
Land Ownership: Not Present
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 004

(4198)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Secs. 25 and 26: ALL;
Sec. 27: N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE;
Sec. 35: N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE.

2,287.84 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease from live water.
UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds.
UT-S-07: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on the entire lease from June 30 thru April 1
UT-S-07: Watershed on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed
Potential ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 3,4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1, 2, 3
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas:
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas:

The following areas fall within the Red Creek Watershed Area of Critical Concern

Section 25 L1-4 NWNE, SWNE, NWSE, SWSE, NENW, SENW, NESW, NWNW, SWNW, NWSW
Section 26 NWNW, SWNW, NENW, SENW, NWNE, SWNE, NENE, SENE
Section 27 NWNW, NENW, NWNE, NENE

UT0208- 005

(4199)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 14: SW;
Sec. 15: Lot 1-3, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 23: Lot 1-4, W2E2, W2SW.
927.12 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed
Potential ACEC's: Red Creek Watershed
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2,3 Recreation NSO Present
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

The Following areas fall within the Three Corners Campsite, and have a No Surface Occupancy stipulation C316 for the Red Mountain Potential Recreation Area which states:
No Surface occupancy or use is allowed on the Red Mountain Potential Recreation area

Section 15 NESE

The Following Areas Fall within the Red Creek Watershed ACEC

Section 15 L1-2
Section 14 NWSW, SWSW, NESW, SESW

UT0208- 006

(4200)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 22: N2NE;
Sec. 26: N2NW.

160.00 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

ACEC's: Not Present
Potential ACEC's: Not Present
Potential WSR's: Not Present
Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present
Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4
O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2
Land Ownership: BLM
Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 010

(4134)

T. 11 S., R. 14 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: E2NE.

80.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Nine Mile

Potential ACEC's: Nine Mile

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Nine Mile

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Nine Mile

The following areas fall within the Nine Mile Special Rec. Management Area, and the Nine Mile Area of Critical Concern:

Section 22 E2NE All

UT0208- 012

(4133)

T. 8 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 29: SWSE.

40.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 2

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 013

(4125)

T. 9 S., R. 18 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 33: S2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 014

(4251)

T. 5 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 25: N2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential WSR's: Not Applicable

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Applicable

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Applicable

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Not Applicable

O+G Stipulations Category: Not Applicable

Land Ownership: Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

UT0208- 015

(4252)

T. 7 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 14: SWSW;
Sec. 15: SESE.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential ACEC's: Not Applicable

Potential WSR's: Not Applicable

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Applicable

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Applicable

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Not Applicable

O+G Stipulations Category: Not Applicable

Land Ownership: Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable
Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Applicable

UT0208- 016

(4168)

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: ALL;
Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2NE;
Sec. 5: Lot 3, 4, 6, 7, SWSE;
Sec. 6: Lot 2;
Sec. 8: Lot 2-6, E2NE, NESE;
Sec. 9: NE;
Sec. 10: NE, W2NW;
Sec. 17: Lot 1, 3.

1,977.57 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the W2SW of

Sec. 3; Lots 2, 3, S2NE of Sec. 4 and the SWNW of Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: TL - Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Lots 1, 2, S2NE, W2SW, SE of Sec. 3 and the NE of

Sec. 10.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the SWSW of Sec. 3; SENE of Sec. 4; Lots 6, 7 of

Sec. 5; Lot 2 of Sec. 6 and Lots 1-5, NESE of Sec. 8.

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2

Land Ownership: BLM, Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 017

(4214)

T. 5 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 15: Lot 1-8;
Sec. 22: Lot 1-2, S2NE;
Sec. 23: Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW.

794.55 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW,

SW of Sec. 23.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW,

SW of Sec. 23.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 1-3, 7, 8 of Sec. 15; Lot 1 of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, NESW of Sec. 23.

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 018

(4127)

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 20: S2SE.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the entire lease.

ACEC's: Not Present

Potential ACEC's: Not Present

Potential WSR's: Not Present

Wilderness Study Areas: Not Present

Wilderness Characteristics: Not Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Not Present

UT0208- 019

(4169)

T. 15 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: E2NE, NESE;

Sec. 21: W2, W2SE, SESE;

Sec. 22: SWSW;

Sec. 28: N2SE, SESE;

Sec. 33: NE.

880.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-18: TL - Sage Grouse seasonal nesting and strutting period on the SESE of Sec. 22.

UT-S-19: CSU - Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds on the SESES of Sec. 22.

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: Main Canyon

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently 4, Alt E Class 1, 2

O+G Stipulations Category:1

Land Ownership:BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Book Cliffs

Under alternative E, the following areas will fall under VRM Class 1 which states:

Objective: To preserve the existing character of the landscape.

Level of change to the landscape should be very low; and must not attract attention

Provides for Natural ecological change (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

Section 19 NENE, SENE, NESE

Section 21 NW, SW, NWSE, SWSE N ½ of SESE,

Section 22 NW ¼ of SWSW

Under alternative E the following areas will fall under VRM Class 2 which states:

Objective: To retain the existing character of the landscape

Level of change to the landscape should be low

Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the natural features of the landscape – form, line, color, & Texture

Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the observer. (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

Section 21 SE ¼ of SWSE, S ½ of the SESE

Section 22 N2/3 of the SWSW

Section 26 NWSE, NESE, SESE

Section 33 NE

Under Alternative A and Alternative C the following areas will fall under the Proposed Book Cliffs SRMA which states:

Alt A) 273,486 acres in the Book Cliffs would be managed as a SRMA and an integrated activity plan would be developed and implemented to maintain a frontier mystique of adventure and discovery (unconfined recreation, limited facilities). The recreational portion of the plan would provide for the

following uses: wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking, back packing, OHV use, camping, cultural values including petroglyph viewing, picnicking, mountain biking, photography, back country horse riding, and visits to turn of the century homesteads. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

Alt C) Same as Alternative A except Wolf point, Bitter Creek drainages, and the head of Sweetwater Canyon would be closed to leasing. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

All areas within the parcel

Alternative C Main Canyon ACEC

All sections in this parcel would fall within the Proposed Main Canyon ACEC should alternative C be selected.

The Main Canyon ACEC description states:

100,915 acres in Main Canyon would be designated as an ACEC. Special management attention would include permitting surface disturbing activities found to be complimentary or compatible to the goals and objectives of the ACEC. The area would be closed or managed with timing and controlled surface use for oil and gas leasing. Visual Resources would be managed as Class I or II. OHV use would be closed or limited to designated routes. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-57)

All areas within the parcel

UT0208- 020

(4170)

T. 5 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lot 1, SENE, E2SE;

Sec. 10: E2NE;

Sec. 11: NWNE, NW, W2SW;

Sec. 12: NE, NENW, NESE.

760.42 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: CSU – Red Mountain – Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on

the Lot 1, SENE, SE of Sec. 3; E2NE of Sec. 10; NWNE, NW, E2SW OF Sec. 11 and the NE of Sec. 12.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the NWNE, E2W2 OF Sec. 11 and Sec. 12.

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: None Present

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1,2

Land Ownership: BLM, Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 021

(4171)

T. 8 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 3: Lot 1, 2, 7, 8.

121.13 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: None Present

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 022

(4189)

T. 6 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 26: S2N2;
Sec. 33: ALL.

800.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the W2E2, W2 of Sec. 33.

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: None Present

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: 4

O+G Stipulations Category: 1

Land Ownership: BLM

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

UT0208- 023

(4192)

T. 15 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 1: ALL;
Sec. 3: Lot 1-6, S2N2, N2SW, SE;
Sec. 11: N2NE, SENE;
Sec. 12: ALL;
Sec. 18: Lot 3, 4, NESW, SE.

2,315.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-16: TL – Crucial Elk Calving and Deer Fawning Habitat on Lots 3, 4, SW, W2SE of Sec. 12 and Lots 3, 4, NESW, SE of Sec. 18.

ACEC's: None Present

Potential ACEC's: Bitter Creek/P.R. Springs

Potential WSR's: None Present

Wilderness Study Areas: None Present

Wilderness Characteristics: None Present but Adjacent to Sweet Water Evaluation that found Wilderness character in Section 11 SWNE, NWSE, and NESE

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: currently 4 proposed under Alternative E class 2

O+G Stipulations Category: Falls under Book Cliffs Stipulations, unable to identify from layer file

Land Ownership: BLM, Private

Special Rec. Management Areas: None Present

Potential Special Rec. Management Areas: Book Cliffs

If Alternative E were selected, the following areas under BLM management would fall within VRM Class 2 which states:

Objective: To retain the existing character of the landscape

Level of change to the landscape should be low

Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the natural features of the landscape – form, line, color, & Texture

Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the observer. (VRM training materials Unit 4 section C. Defining Management Classes)

All Parcels

Under Alternative A and Alternative C the following areas will fall under the Proposed Book Cliffs SRMA which states:

Alt A) 273,486 acres in the Book Cliffs would be managed as a SRMA and an integrated activity plan would be developed and implemented to maintain a frontier mystique of adventure and discovery (unconfined recreation, limited facilities). The recreational portion of the plan would provide for the following uses: wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking, back packing, OHV use, camping, cultural values including petroglyph viewing, picnicking, mountain biking, photography, back country horse riding, and visits to turn of the century homesteads. (VFO DRMP and EIS Jan 2005 pg 2-51)

Under Alternative A the following areas will fall under the Proposed Bitter Creek/P.R. Springs ACEC which states:

The 147,425-acre potential Bitter Creek-P.R. Springs ACEC...includes all the features of the Bitter Creek ACEC in addition to Sweetwater Canyon, Tom Patterson Canyon, P.R. Canyon, Railroad Canyon, and the Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA. The relevance and importance criteria are the same as Bitter Creek. (VDRMP and EIS pg 3-82) This implicates the Bitter Creek Plan under Alternative A which states: 68,834 acres referred to as Bitter Creek would be designated as an ACEC/Research Natural Area to protect high-value, old-growth pinyon pines, cultural resources, historical features, and watersheds. Special management actions would include the following: establishing a research/monitoring program; enhancing habitat utilizing forest manipulation and tree spraying, and restricting wood-cutting around old-growth pinion. For oil and gas leasing, the area would be managed with timing and controlled surface use, except for 160 acres containing old-growth pinion pines (T13S, R25E, Section 35, SESE), which would be managed as a NSO, and the 400 acre Mountain Browse Natural Area would be closed to leasing. VRM class designations would be I, II or III, and OHV use would be closed or limited to designated routes. (VDRMP and EIS pg 2-54 and 2-55)

Based on a Wilderness Character Review the following areas would either be adjacent to, or close to a border with an area defined as having wilderness character. (GIS layer

WildernessCharacterReview_vn24_dz containing the review field Sweet Water)

Section 11 SENE

Soils

Submitted By: Steve Strong, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

UT0208- 001

(4195)

T. 3 N., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 13: Lot 1, 2, SE;
Sec. 24: N2NE, SENE, W2, SE;
Sec. 25: NE.

975.55 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Wildlife habitat for the entire lease from July 20 thru May 15.

Lease Notice: Severe soil erosion on entire parcel.

UT0208- 002

(4196)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 17: Lot 1-4, SW, N2SE, SWSE;
Secs. 18 and 19: ALL.

1,544.33 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 18 and Sec. 19 from July 20 thru May 15.
UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on Sec. 17 from June 15 thru December 1.

Lease Notice: Severe soil erosion on entire parcel.

* Subject to a Pre-sale offer

UT0208- 003

(4197)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 20: W2E2, SENE, W2;
Sec. 29: N2, W2SW, SESW, S2SE.

1,040.00 Acres
Daggett County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from live water.
UT-S-07: Seasonal Wildlife Habitat on the W2NE, W2 of Sec. 20 and Sec. 29 from July 20 thru May 15.

UT-S-07: Watershed on the N2, NWSW, S2SE of Sec. 29 from June 1 thru November 1.

Lease Notice: Habitat restoration projects exist on this parcel and may require compensatory mitigation.

* Subject to a Pre-sale offer

UT0208- 004

(4198)

T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Salt Lake
Secs. 25 and 26: ALL;
Sec. 27: N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE;
Sec. 35: N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE.

2,287.84 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease from live water.

UT-S-04: No occupancy or other surface disturbance on the entire lease 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds.

UT-S-07: Sage Grouse strutting grounds on the entire lease from June 30 thru April 1

UT-S-07: Watershed on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

Lease Notice: Habitat restoration projects exist on this parcel and may require compensatory mitigation.

UT0208- 005

(4199)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 14: SW;
Sec. 15: Lot 1-3, E2SW, SE;
Sec. 23: Lot 1-4, W2E2, W2SW.

927.12 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

UT0208- 006

(4200)

T. 3 N., R. 25 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 22: N2NE;
Sec. 26: N2NW.

160.00 Acres

Daggett County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-07: Minimize watershed damage on the entire lease from June 1 thru November 1.

UT0208- 010

(4134)

T. 11 S., R. 14 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 22: E2NE.

80.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UT0208- 012

(4133)

T. 8 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 29: SWSE.

40.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources

UT0208- 013

(4125)

T. 9 S., R. 18 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 33: S2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UT0208- 014

(4251)

T. 5 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: N2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UT0208- 015

(4252)

T. 7 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 14: SWSW;

Sec. 15: SESE.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UT0208- 016

(4168)

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: ALL;
Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2NE;
Sec. 5: Lot 3, 4, 6, 7, SWSE;
Sec. 6: Lot 2;
Sec. 8: Lot 2-6, E2NE, NESE;
Sec. 9: NE;
Sec. 10: NE, W2NW;
Sec. 17: Lot 1, 3.

1,977.57 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the W2SW of Sec. 3; Lots 2, 3, S2NE of Sec. 4 and the SWNW of Sec. 10.
UT-S-52: TL - Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Lots 1, 2, S2NE, W2SW, SE of Sec. 3 and the NE of Sec. 10.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the SWSW of Sec. 3; SENE of Sec. 4; Lots 6, 7 of Sec. 5; Lot 2 of Sec. 6 and Lots 1-5, NESE of Sec. 8.

UT0208- 017

(4214)

T. 5 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 15: Lot 1-8;
Sec. 22: Lot 1-2, S2NE;
Sec. 23: Lot 4-5, S2NW, SW.

794.55 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICES

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, SW of Sec. 23.
UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-8 of Sec. 15; Lots 1, 2, S2NE of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, SW of Sec. 23.
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 1-3, 7, 8 of Sec. 15; Lot 1 of Sec. 22 and Lots 4, 5, S2NW, NESW of Sec. 23.

UT0208- 018

(4127)

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 20: S2SE.

80.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the entire lease.

UT0208- 019

(4169)

T. 15 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: E2NE, NESE;

Sec. 21: W2, W2SE, SESE;

Sec. 22: SWSW;

Sec. 28: N2SE, SESE;

Sec. 33: NE.

880.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-18: TL - Sage Grouse seasonal nesting and strutting period on the SESE of Sec. 22.

UT-S-19: CSU - Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds on the SESES of Sec. 22.

Lease Notice: Severe soil erosion on entire parcel.**UT0208- 020**

(4170)

T. 5 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lot 1, SENE, E2SE;

Sec. 10: E2NE;

Sec. 11: NWNE, NW, W2SW;

Sec. 12: NE, NENW, NESE.

760.42 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONUT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
onthe Lot 1, SENE, SE of Sec. 3; E2NE of Sec. 10; NWNE, NW, E2SW OF Sec. 11 and the
NE of

Sec. 12.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the NWNE, E2W2 OF Sec. 11 and Sec. 12.

UT0208- 021

(4171)

T. 8 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lot 1, 2, 7, 8.

121.13 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UT0208- 022

(4189)

T. 6 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 26: S2N2;

Sec. 33: ALL.

800.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe soil erosion on the W2E2, W2 of Sec. 33.

UT0208- 023

(4192)

T. 15 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: ALL;

Sec. 3: Lot 1-6, S2N2, N2SW, SE;

Sec. 11: N2NE, SENE;

Sec. 12: ALL;

Sec. 18: Lot 3, 4, NESW, SE.

2,315.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-16: TL – Crucial Elk Calving and Deer Fawning Habitat on Lots 3, 4, SW, W2SE of Sec. 12 and Lots 3, 4, NESW, SE of Sec. 18.

Special Status Animal Species and Wildlife –

Submitted by: Amy Torres, VFO Wildlife Biologist

All Parcels- The BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS as well as the Records of Decision (RODs) were reviewed to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for leasing of the preliminary lease parcels. BLM Manual 6840 gives guidance consistent with existing laws, regarding the conservation of special status plant and animal species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Special status species include those which are proposed for federal listing, listed as federally threatened or endangered, candidates for federal listing, listed by a State in a category such as threatened or endangered implying endangerment or extinction and those species designated by the BLM State Director as sensitive. Manual 6840 policy is to ensure that actions authorized by the BLM do not contribute to the need to list any special status species. In addition, Utah BLM Instruction Memorandum Number UT 2001-081 clarified and updated the current status of Utah BLM's sensitive animal species list. The sensitive species list adopted by UT IM No 2001-081, has been reviewed.

Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174, provides additional guidance an Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation was attached to all the preliminary parcels. Lease Notices were also attached to the parcels in order to identify, as directed by the IM, for particular animal species. A copy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service species list for Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties is on file in the office as well as the State of Utah Sensitive Species List.

DMRMP/EIS-Decisions for Special Status Animal Species may be found starting on page 2-13(FWS28)-2-16 (FWS36) detailing timing restrictions and other appropriate language

supporting sensitive species. All applicable lease notices/stipulations can be found in appendix A on the DMRA RMP Record of Decision.

BCRMP/EIS-Page 117 discusses endangered or threatened species. In the ROD, page 50, the management direction for endangered or threatened species and sensitive species is stated. Other laws, regulations, and BLM policies for special status species apply.

New special status species have been identified and are listed on BLM Utah's sensitive animal species list. This is considered new information. However, protection for the species and/or habitat when present on the parcels would be afforded by application of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation of Washington Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174, species specific lease notices that would be attached to the preliminary parcels as noted below. Additionally, Adherence to Section 6 of the Standard Lease Form, application of standard operating procedures and Best Management Practices, and the opportunity to adjust any proposed surface activities pursuant to 43 CFR 3101.1-2 would provide for further protection. Therefore, information is not considered significant and provisions would be similar to protection afforded in the existing NEPA analysis.

An individual environmental analysis will be required at the APD stage of any proposed development. As part of this APD stage analysis, compliance with the Endangered Species Act will be required and any necessary Section 7 consultation proceedings with the FWS will be part of the analysis.

Parcel UT0208-001

Lease Stipulation UT-S-50

A timing limitation stipulation for the Antelope Flat Antelope Fawning Area was added to the S2NW and S2 of Section 24; and the N2 and N2S2 of Section 25. No surface use is allowed within the Antelope Flat fawning areas from May 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

A timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range was added to the entire parcel. No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-13

A lease notice identifying potential Burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-24

A lease notice identifying potential Black-footed ferret habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Black-footed ferret and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Appendix 2 of the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan and EIS, Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

A lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-53

A lease notice identifying potential White-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the White-tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

Parcel UT0208-002**Lease Stipulation UT-S-50**

A timing limitation stipulation for the Antelope Flat Antelope Fawning Area was added to lots 3, 4, E2SW and SE of Section 19. No surface use is allowed within the Antelope Flat fawning areas from May 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

A timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range was added to lots 1-4, S2 of Section 17; lots 1-6, E2SW, and SE of Section 18; and lots 1-4, E2 and E2W2 of Section 19. No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-13

A lease notice identifying potential Burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-24

A lease notice identifying potential Black-footed ferret habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Black-footed ferret and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Appendix 2 of the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan and EIS, Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

A lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat was added to W2SW, SESW, and SWSE of Section 17; lots 2-6, E2SW, and SE of Section 18; and lots 1-4, E2 and E2W2 of Section 19. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-53

A lease notice identifying potential White-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the White-tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

Parcel UT0208-003

Lease Stipulation UT-S-50

A timing limitation stipulation for the Antelope Flat Antelope Fawning Area was added to S2 of Section 20 and Section 29 (all). No surface use is allowed within the Antelope Flat fawning areas from May 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

A timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range was added to Section 20 (all); and the NWNW of Section 29. No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-13

A lease notice identifying potential Burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-24

A lease notice identifying potential Black-footed ferret habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the

Black-footed ferret and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Appendix 2 of the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan and EIS, Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

A lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat was added to Section 20 (all); and N2, SW and N2SE of Section 29. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-53

A lease notice identifying potential White-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the White-tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

Parcel UT0208-004

Lease Stipulation UT-S-50

A timing limitation stipulation for the Antelope Flat Antelope Fawning Area was added to lots 1-4, W2E2 and W2 of Section 25; Section 26 (all); Section 27 (all); and Section 35 (all). No surface use is allowed within the Antelope Flat fawning areas from May 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

A timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range was added to lot 1 of Section 25; No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-53

A timing limitation stipulation for Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas was added to lots 1-4, W2E2, and W2 of Section 25; Section 26 (all); Section 27 (all); and Section 35 (all). No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-62

A no surface occupancy stipulation for Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds was added for W2NE, NW, E2SW, and NWSE of Section 35. No surface occupancy or use is allowed within 1000 feet of sage grouse strutting grounds. Waivers, exceptions, or modifications to this limitation may be specifically approved in writing by the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect

the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

A lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat was added to lots 1-3, W2NE, NW, N2SW, and NWSE of Section 25; N2, and N2S2 of Section 26; and NE, and N2NW of Section 27. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-28

A lease notice identifying potential Peregrine falcon habitat was added to lots 1, 2, W2NE, and NW of Section 27; N2 of Section 28; and NE, and N2NW of Section 27. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-005

Lease Stipulation UT-S-53

A timing limitation stipulation for Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas was added to lot 2, and the SW of Section 15. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-006

Lease Stipulation UT-S-53

A timing limitation stipulation for Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas was added to the W2 of Section 22. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-010

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-012

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-26

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous hawk habitat for the S2NE, SESW and SE of Section 29. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat for Section 29 (all). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-013

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-014

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-26

A lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous hawk habitat was added for Section 25 (all). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

A lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat was added for Section 25 (all). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-015

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-25

A lease notice identifying potential Bald eagle habitat was added to the S2SW of Section 15. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Bald eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-016

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

This lease contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range for lots 1, 2, S2NE, W2SW, and SE of Section 3; NE, E2NW and S2 of Section 10; and Lots 1, and 2 of Section 17. No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-76

A lease stipulation was added for this lease that contains a **Closed to Leasing Stipulation** for Lands within the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge for the E2SE of Section 3; and, E2NE and S2 of Section 10, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge as described in the diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan and EIS. Waivers, Exceptions, or modifications to this limitation may be specifically approved in writing by the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-017

Lease Stipulation UT-S-53

A timing limitation stipulation for Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas was added to the SW, W2SE and SESE of Section 22. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-26

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous hawk habitat for Lots 1-8, SENW and NW of Section 15; Section 22 (all); and lots 4, 5, 9-11, SWNE, S2NW, SW, and W2SE of Section 23. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat for Lots 1-8, SENW and NW of Section 15; Section 22 (all); and lots 4, 5, 9-11, SWNE, S2NW, SW, and W2SE of Section 23. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-018 (Bookcliffs Resource Area)**Lease Notice T&E-03**

A lease notice identifying potential habitat for the Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin was added to the entire parcel. The lessee/operator is given notice that the lands in this parcel contain Critical Habitat for the Colorado River Fish (bonytail, humpback chub, Colorado pike minnow, and razorback sucker) listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, or these parcels have watersheds that are tributary to designated habitat. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of this lease. Integration, of and adherence to minimization measures will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease and could reduce the scope of Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation at the permit stage.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-25

A lease notice identifying potential Bald eagle habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Bald eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Parcel UT0208-019 (Bookcliffs Resource Area)**Lease Stipulation UT-S-18**

This lease contains a timing limitation stipulation identifying Sage Grouse Seasonal nesting and Strutting Grounds for the E2NE and NESE of Section 21; and Section 22 (all). In order to protect the seasonal nesting and strutting period of sage grouse, surface disturbance, exploration, drilling, and other development activity will not be allowed from March 15 through June 15. This stipulation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. This

stipulation may be waived by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

Lease Stipulation UT-S-19

This lease contains a controlled surface use stipulation for sage grouse strutting grounds for the E2NE and NESE of Section 21; and Section 22 (all). No drilling or storage facilities will be allowed within 300 feet of the sage grouse strutting grounds. This stipulation may be waived by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

Lease Notice T&E-06

A lease notice identifying potential Mexican Spotted Owl habitat was added for the E2NE and NESE of Section 19; and the W2 of Section 21. The lessee/operator is given notice that the lands in this lease contain suitable habitat for Mexican spotted owl, a federally listed species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Integration, of and adherence to minimization measures will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease and could reduce the scope of Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation at the permit stage.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-020

Lease Stipulation UT-S-52

A timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range was added for SWSW Section 11. No surface use will be allowed from December 1 through April 30; the stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Lease Notice UT-LN-27

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden eagle habitat for the E2, E2NW, and E2SW of Section 11; and Section 12 (all). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2

Parcel UT0208-021 (Bookcliffs Resource Area)

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-022**Lease Notice UT-LN-07**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Parcel UT0208-023 (Bookcliffs Resource Area)**Lease Stipulation UT-S-16**

This parcel contains a lease stipulation identifying Crucial Elk Calving and Deer Fawning Habitat for the S2 Section 12; and, Lots 2, 3, 4, SENE, SWNW, NESW and SE of Section 18. In order to protect crucial elk calving and deer fawning habitat, exploration, drilling, and other development activity will not be allowed from May 15 through June 30. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. This stipulation may be waived by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

Lease Notice T&E-06

A lease notice identifying potential Mexican Spotted Owl habitat was added for Section 3 (all). The lessee/operator is given notice that the lands in this lease contain suitable habitat for Mexican spotted owl, a federally listed species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Integration, of and adherence to minimization measures will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease and could reduce the scope of Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation at the permit stage.

Lease Notice UT-LN-07

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added for the entire parcel, allowing modifications to the surface use plan of operations in order to protect raptor species and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities if they are found in the area.

Special Status Species Plants and Invasive, Non-native Plant Species –

Submitted By: Clayton Newberry, Botanist

REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY USED:

Special status (Federally threatened, endangered or candidate, and Bureau-sensitive) plant species that occur on lands within the Vernal Field Office are listed in Appendix A and are based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Utah semi-annual Federally listed species list and the Utah Bureau of Land Management statewide sensitive species list (Instruction Memorandum No. UT 2003-027)). Special status plant survey maps along with habitat descriptions; individual species survey publications; Utah Natural Heritage Program species occurrence records and habitat descriptions; geological maps and soil maps; ecological site descriptions for potential vegetation communities; aerial GIS data layers; and personal familiarity with the areas of the proposed activity were utilized to determine the occurrence of, or potential habitat for, special status plant species listed for the Vernal Field Office within or near the locations of the proposed lease sale parcels.

ADDITIONAL SPECIES: It is possible that non-status endemic and rare plant species and habitat may occur within some of the parcels. These species currently are not listed as special status plant species but could be in the future if loss of habitat and increased threats warrant listing. The following has been directed by the

Washington Office of the BLM (WOIM No. 2002-174) to be added as a stipulation to lease parcels to provide protection to species that change status in the future:

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

UT0208-001 (4195)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 975.55 Acres

T3N R22E (Salt Lake)

SEC 13 SE: Lot 1, 2

SEC 24 N2NE, SENE, W2, SE

SEC 25 NE

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, juniper and short grass prairie. Elevation ranges from 6500 to 7200 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-002 (4196)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 1,544.33 Acres

T3N R23E (Salt Lake)

SEC 17 SW, N2SE, SWSE: Lot 1-4

SEC 18 ALL

SEC 1 ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine and juniper. Elevation ranges from 6300 to 7200 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-003 (4197)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 1,040.00 Acres

T3N R23E (Salt Lake)

SEC 20 W2E2, SENE, W2

SEC 29 N2, W2SW, SESW, S2SE

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, ponderosa pine and mountain brush. Elevation ranges from 6500 to 8040 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-004 (4198)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 2,287.84 Acres

T3N R23E (Salt Lake)

SEC 25 ALL

SEC 26 ALL

SEC 27 N2, NESW, N2SE, SESE

SEC 35 N2N2, SENE, SWNW, N2SW, SESW, SE

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-005 (4199)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 927.12 Acres

T3 N., R25E (Salt Lake)

SEC 14 SW

SEC 15 E2SW, SE: Lot 1-3

SEC 23 W2E2, W2SW: Lot 1-4

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, Utah juniper and short grass prairie. Elevation ranges from 6680 to 8149 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-006 (4200)

Daggett County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 160.00 Acres

T3N R25E (Salt Lake)

SEC 22 N2NE

SEC 26 N2NW

Vegetation in this unit consists of pinyon pine and gambell oak. Elevation ranges from 7900 to 8800 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-010 (4134)

Duchesne County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres

T11S R14E (Salt Lake)

SEC 22 E2NE

Vegetation in this unit consists of pinyon pine, Utah juniper and sagebrush. Elevation ranges from 6960 to 7200 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-012 (4133)

Duchesne County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 40.00 Acres
T8S R16E (Salt Lake)
SEC 29 SWSE

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush and salt desert scrub. Elevation ranges from 5450 to 5650 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-013 (4125)

T9S R18E (Salt Lake)
Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres
SEC 33 S2NW

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub. Elevation is appx 5100 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-014 (4251)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres
T5S R19E (Salt Lake)
SEC 25 N2NW

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub. Elevation is appx 5350 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-015 (4252)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres
T7S R20E (Salt Lake)
SEC 14 SWSW
SEC 15 SESE

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grassland. Elevation ranges between 4950 and 4980 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-016 (4168)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 1,977.57 Acres

T8S R20E (Salt Lake)

SEC 3 ALL

SEC 4 S2NE: Lot 1-4

SEC 5 SWSE: Lot 3, 4, 6, 7

SEC 6: Lot 2

SEC 8 E2NE, NESE: Lot 2-6

SEC 9 NE

SEC 10 NE, W2NW

SEC 17 Lot 1, 3

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grassland. Elevation ranges between 4700 and 4960 ft.

Federally listed Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wetlandicus*) is known in the general area of this unit, with the nearest population in T8S R20E SEC 11 NWNWNE, approximately one-half mile east of the unit boundary in SEC 10; and in T4S 3E SEC 29 NWNWSW, approximately 1.5 mile south-southwest of the unit boundary in SEC 17. Leasing this unit will therefore have "potential effect" on individuals or habitat of Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wetlandicus*).

UT0208-017 (4214)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 794.55 Acres

T5S R21E (Salt Lake)

SEC 15: Lot 1-8

SEC 22 S2NE: Lot 1-2,

SEC 23 S2NW, SW: Lot 4-5

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush and salt desert shrub. Elevation ranges from 5400 to 6350 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species is lacking; and Federally listed plant species are not known from this area. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federally listed plants.

Bureau-sensitive Hamilton milkvetch (*Astragalus hamiltonii*) is known from this general area. A population is documented in SEC 26 NENE, appx one-half mile from the unit boundary. Leasing this unit will therefore have "potential impact" upon habitat and populations of Hamilton milkvetch.

UT0208-018 (4127)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres

T7S R21E (Salt Lake)

SEC 20 S2SE

Vegetation in this unit consists of desert grassland and wetlands. Elevation ranges from 4680 to 4940 ft.

This unit consists of alluvial benches along the banks of the Green River. These benches are usually prime habitat for Federally listed Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wellandicus*). Leasing this unit might therefore have "potential impact" upon habitat and populations of Uinta Basin hookless cactus.

UT0208-019 (4169)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 880.00 Acres
T15S R21E (Salt Lake)

SEC 19 E2NE, NESE
SEC 21 W2, W2SE, SESE
SEC 22 SWSW
SEC 28 N2SE, SESE
SEC 33 NE

Vegetation in this unit consists of pinyon pine, Utah juniper and sagebrush. Elevation ranges from 5920 to 7580 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-020 (4170)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 760.42 Acres
T5S R22E (Salt Lake)

SEC 3 SENE, E2SE: Lot 1
SEC 10 E2NE
SEC 11 NWNE, NW, W2SW
SEC 12 NE, NENW, NESE

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert shrub. Elevation ranges from 4800 to 5200 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-021 (4171)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 121.13 Acres
T8S R22E (Salt Lake)
SEC 3: Lot 1, 2, 7, 8

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub. Elevation ranges from 5000 to 5252 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-022 (4189)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 800.00 Acres
T6S R23E (Salt Lake)
SEC 26 S2N2

SEC 33 ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub. Elevation ranges from 4880 to 5205 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

UT0208-023 (4192)

Uintah County, Utah: Vernal Field Office, 2,315.69 Acres
T15S R24E (Salt Lake)

SEC 1: ALL

SEC 3 S2N2, N2SW, SE: Lot 1-6

SEC 11 N2NE, SENE

SEC 12 ALL

SEC 18 NESW, SE: Lot 3, 4

Vegetation in this unit consists of pinyon pine, Utah juniper, sagebrush and desert grassland. Elevation ranges from 6800 to 7720 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit will therefore have "no effect" on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

**APPENDIX A
VFO SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES
SUMMARY OF OCCURRENCE AND POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
FEBRUARY 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

SPECIES	S T A T U S	HABITAT (county; location; formation; community; elevation; notes).	OCCURRENCE and/or POTENTIAL for OCCURRENCE
<i>Arabis vivariensis</i> park rock cress	S	Uintah: Weber Fm sandstone & limestone outcrops; mixed desert shrub or PJ communities; 5000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Astragalus hamiltonii</i> Hamilton milkvetch	S	Uintah: Duchesne River, Mowry, Dakota & Wasatch Fms; mixed desert shrub or PJ communities; 5240-5800 ft.	Known at T5S R21E SEC 26 NENE, in Asphalt Ridge appx 0.5 mile from southeast boundary of UT 0208-017.
<i>Cirsium ownbeyi</i> Ownbey thistle	S	Daggett, ne Uintah: e Uinta Mts canyons; PJS, mixed desert shrub or riparian communities; 5500-6200 ft.	None

SPECIES	S T A T U S	HABITAT (county: location; formation; community; elevation; notes).	OCCURRENCE and/or POTENTIAL for OCCURRENCE
<i>Cleomella palmeriana</i> var. <i>goodrichii</i> Goodrich stinkweed	S	Uintah: Morrison Fm, heavy clay; mat- salt-bush, Cicsco woodyaster, salt desert shrub community; 4000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Erigeron untermannii</i> Untermann fleabane	S	Duchesne, Uintah: Tavaputs Plateau; Green River, Uinta Fm; dry calcareous ridges; PJ or mountain brush communities; 7000-7800 ft.	None
<i>Habenaria zothecina</i> alcove bog orchid	S	Uintah: unconsolidated Quaternary alluvium; seeps, hanging gardens, riparian areas in mixed desert shrub, PJS, or oak brush communities; 4360-8690 ft.	None
<i>Hymenoxys lapidicola</i> rock bitterweed	S	Uintah: Blue Mtn; Weber Fm, sandy ledges & crevices; PJ or ponderosa- manzanita communities; 5700-8100 ft.	None
<i>Lepidium barnebyanum</i> Barneby ridgecress	E	TRIBAL in Duchesne: Tavaputs Plateau; Uinta Fm; white shale ridgecrests; PJS community; 6200-6500 ft.	None
<i>Lepidium huberi</i> Huber's pepperplant	S	Uintah: Uinta Mts foothills, Book Cliffs; Chinle, Park City, Weber Fm; eroding cliffs, alluvium; black sage or mountain brush communities; 5000-9700 ft.	None
<i>Mentzelia goodrichii</i> Goodrich blazingstar	S	Duchesne: Green River Fm; escarpments of Willow & Argyle Canyons; steep white calciferous shale cliffs; open mountain brush communities; 8100-8800 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon acaulis</i> var. <i>acaulis</i> stemless beardtongue	S	Daggett: Browns Park Fm, ashy, gravelly or sandy ridges & knolls; sagebrush-desert grass or PJ communities; 5840-7285 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon gibbensii</i> Gibbens beardtongue	S	Daggett: Brown's Park (Bridger Basin endemic); Green River Fm; sandy / shaly bluffs, slopes; juniper, thistle, buckwheat, serviceberry community; 5500-6400 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon goodrichii</i> Goodrich beardtongue	S	Duchesne, Uintah: near Lapoint, Tridell, Whiterocks; Duchesne River Fm; clay badlands; desert shrub, shadscale, PJ or mountain brush communities; 5590 to 6215 ft.	None

SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT (county: location; formation; community; elevation; notes).	OCCURRENCE and/or POTENTIAL for OCCURRENCE
<i>Penstemon grahamii</i> Graham beardtongue	S	Uintah, Duchesne: Green River Fm; oil shale or white shale knolls & talus; semi-barren mixed desert shrub or PJ communities; 4600-6700 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>albifluvis</i> White River beardtongue	C	Uintah: Green River Fm; se of Bonanza; shale slopes; semi-barren mixed desert shrub or PJ communities; 5000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Schoenocrambe argillacea</i> clay thelopody	T	Uintah: Book Cliffs; contact zone of upper Uinta and lower Green River Fms; mixed desert shrub, Indian ricegrass & pygmy sagebrush communities; 5000-5650 ft.	None
<i>Schoenocrambe suffrutescens</i> shrubby reed-mustard	E	Duchesne, Uintah: Green River Fm; Badlands Cliffs, Gray Knolls, Little Rock Pack Mt; calcareous shale; mixed desert shrub, PJS or mountain brush communities; 5400-6000 ft.	None
<i>Sclerocactus brevispinus</i> Pariette cactus	T	Duchesne: Pariette Bench south of Myton; Uinta Fm (Wagonhound Mbr), fine alkaline clay; shadscale, mat-saltbush community; 4700-5400 ft.	None
<i>Sclerocactus wetlandicus</i> Uinta Basin hookless cactus	T	Duchesne, Uintah: alluvial benches of Green River watershed from Ouray to Carbon County line; cold desert shrub communities; 4700-6000 ft.	Known in T8S R20E SEC 11, circa 0.5 mile east of unit boundary in SEC10 of UT208-016; and in T4S 3E SEC 29, circa 0.5 mile south-southwest of the unit boundary in SEC 17 of UT208-016; also possible habitat in UT208-18, in alluvial benches overlooking the Green River.
<i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> Ute lady's tresses	T	Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah: Green River tributaries, Uinta Mts, Browns Park, Book Cliffs; unconsolidated alluvium; wetland meadow communities; 4400-6810 ft.	None
<i>Thelesperma caespitosum</i> Uinta greenthread	S	Duchesne: Uinta Mts, Tavaputs Plateau; Bishop Conglomerate Fm; cushion plant community on rim crests above mountain brush; 7500-9000 ft.	None

STATUS: C = FEDERAL / FWS CANDIDATE
T = FEDERAL / FWS THREATENED
E = FEDERAL / FWS ENDANGERED
S = BUREAU SENSITIVE

Based on BLM State Special Status Species List, field survey data, geological and soil maps, species publications, aerial photography,

and species maps.

Water Quality –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current On Shore Orders. These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be totally isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, it is concluded that leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.

Wilderness, Wilderness Characteristics –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

Wild and Scenic Rivers–

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the February 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.

07-2235



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office
170 South 500 East
Vernal, UT 84078
(435) 781-4400 Fax: (435) 781-4410
<http://www.blm.gov/utah/vernal>



IN REPLY REFER TO:

3160

(UT083)

November 26, 2007

Matthew Seddon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Utah State Historical Society
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1182

Project Description

Project Name: February 2008 Oil and Gas Parcel Lease Sale, Vernal Field Office

The following undertaking is located in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah County, Utah.
For specific parcel locations please refer to enclosed maps

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah State Office proposes to offer 19 lease parcels comprising 7294.79 acres located within the Vernal Field Office (VFO) in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties, Utah for bid during the February, 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale. The attached Staff Memo and maps offer a synthesis of the presence or absence of previous cultural resource inventories and known archaeological sites within each designated lease parcel. The Area of Potential Effect for each parcel is the legal description provided for each parcel. If a parcel is not taken by competitive bidding, then it may be leased by non-competitive sale for the two years following the competitive lease sale. A lease is issued with a ten year primary term (see 43 CFR 3120.2-1), after which the lease would expire unless the lease is capable of production in paying quantities. A producing lease would be held indefinitely by paying production of oil or gas.

A lessee's right to explore and drill for oil and gas, at some location on the lease, is implied by issuance of the lease, unless the lease has a non-surface occupancy stipulation or a site specific proposal impacts non-discretionary resource values. A lessee must submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) to the BLM for approval and must possess a BLM approved APD prior to drilling. An appropriate level of NEPA documentation must be prepared with its analysis and decision prior to APD approval. Following BLM approval of an APD, a lessee may drill the well associated with the approved APD with the intent produce oil and gas from a lease without additional approval. Additional wells proposed upon said lease would also require an approval from BLM.

Received

DEC 3 - 2007

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This undertaking:

	(1) is a non-routine interstate and/or interagency project or program
	(2) directly affects a National Register eligible or listed property
	(3) has been determined by BLM, the SHPO or the Council to be highly controversial
	(4) is one of the following: a land exchange, land sale, Recreation and Public Purpose lease, or transfer
X	(5) is one which we wish to bring to your attention

PART II. Determination of Eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places.

BLM requests your concurrence on the following determinations of effect. The Utah Protocol Part VII.A.C. was applied to this cultural resource review for the February, 2008 lease sale and the VFO determination, under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4." Please review the enclosed documentation, then sign and return this letter with your comments within ten working days.

Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office

Field Office Archaeologist

Date

11-27-07

Assistant Field Office Manager for Minerals

Date

11-27-2007

Utah State Historic Preservation Officer

Concur

Do Not Concur

Date

12/20/07

Comments:

Matthew T. Seddon, RPA
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Enclosures

1. February, 2008 Staff Memo—Records Review
2. Topographic maps showing parcels, previous cultural resource surveys and known archaeological sites
3. Utah February 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale List with stipulations and legal descriptions..